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'This policy is ridiculous'

Students face sticker shock after using the parking lot beneath The Bow PAGE 6

JEANS GENIE

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Calgary Mayor Naheed Nenshi addresses reporters Wednesday after writing a letter advising Mount Royal University to continue protesting cuts to post-secondary funding and warning of the impacts of program suspensions announced by the institution. JEREMY NOLAIS/METRO

'Stand up' to province, mayor tells Mount Royal

Rallying support. University students and faculty plan another protest to provincial cuts at noon Thursday

Calgary's mayor believes the university he still technically works for shouldn't take cuts to provincial funding lying down, and took direct shots at Alberta's post-secondary minister Wednesday.

Mayor Naheed Nenshi penned a letter with his suggestions to Richard Shaw, chair of Mount Royal University's board of governors, one day after the school announced it was suspending numerous diploma and certificate programs and imposing a new fee on students to help overcome a $14-million funding shortfall.

"Great cities require great universities.... If the education system fails, it's the cities that have to deal with the repercussions of that," Nenshi said.

The program suspensions in areas like theatre, music, journalism, and forensic studies, and admission reductions in nursing will save the university $5 million and see about 400 fewer students on Mount Royal's campus this fall, according to provost and vice-president academic Manuel Mertin.

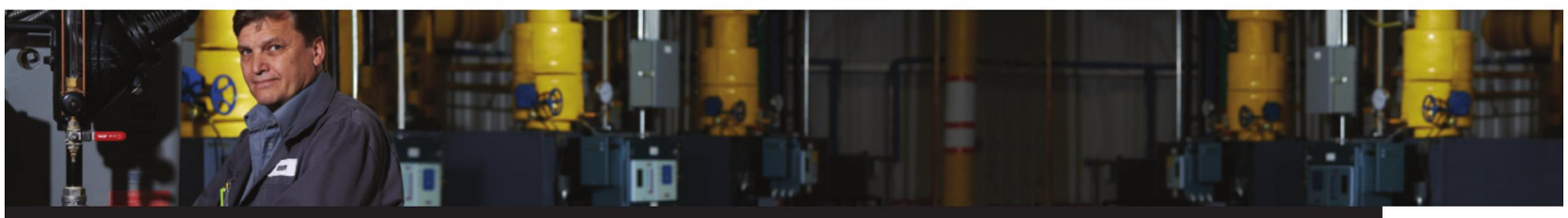
Nenshi, who is on leave from his position as an associate business professor at Mount Royal, said cuts of 7.3 per cent to provincial grant funding announced in last month's provincial budget need to be reversed.

The mayor also said he isn't buying suggestions from Advanced Education Minister Thomas Lukaszuk that the funding gap can be absorbed through finding administrative efficiencies.

"I'd like to see which department Minister Lukaszuk has run that has been able to find efficiencies of 10 per cent with three weeks' notice," Nenshi said, referring to claims from university officials that they had little to no warning about the cuts.

Reached late Wednesday, Lukaszuk said he would have preferred that Nenshi call to raise his concerns. He added that while institutions like Mount Royal are granted power to suspend programs for one year, any further changes or full terminations of academic offerings must be approved by his ministry.

JEREMY NOLAIS/METRO



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Cab grab.
Group aims to put 50 more taxis on city streets

City brokers are pushing to green-light another 50 taxi licence plates before this year's Calgary Stampede.

The proposal will be debated by the Taxi Limousine Advisory Committee (TLAC) on Friday but would require approval from city council.

If granted, the plates would come on top of 55 accessible-vehicle permissions granted last year and carry provisions requiring drivers to work peak periods on Friday and Saturday night, according to Kurt Enders, owner of Checker Yellow Cabs and director of the Calgary Livery Association.

"We believe that the industry can absorb another 50 licences without destroying (business) during the non-peak hours," Enders said on Wednesday.

Brokers are also pitching to attach a price to the new plates, set at 75 per cent of market value. A Metro investigation last month found some drivers are charging more than $100,000 to off load their plates even though, technically, they belong to the City of Calgary.

Enders said the additional funding brought in by attaching a steeper price to the plates could be used to offset the costs associated with technology required to comply with a new taxi data-tracking bylaw.

Calgary has 1,466 taxi plates available and 4,097 licensed drivers.

JEREMY NOLAIS/METRO

Officials are debating turning the right lane of northbound Macleod Trail into a taxi queue during the Calgary Stampede. JEREMY NOLAIS/METRO

Macleod Trail could serve as Stampede taxi queue

Taxing patience.
Measures intend to improve ride home for Stampede fans

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Her feet sore and eyes bleary, Elysse Berg spent the better part of an hour trying to find a cab ride home during last year's Calgary Stampede.

"It was horrible," she said. "People just wander around aimlessly. There's no cab zone — it's just pickups."

Realizing the trek home may sour the Stampede experience, the Taxi Limousine Advisory Committee (TLAC), Stampede representatives and other community partners went to work in November, drafting a new strategy to improve service during the Greatest Outdoor Show on Earth.

On Friday, the committee will vote on a proposal that would see the right-hand lane of northbound Macleod Trail turned into a taxi queue south of 15th Avenue S.E. for up to three blocks from 9 p.m. to 2 a.m. every day of the Stampede.

Other temporary taxi zones are being considered along 5th Street S.E. between 12th and 14th Avenues as well as along eastbound 14th Avenue and northbound 6th Street N.E.

TLAC chair Jonathon Campbell said a primary driver of the recommendations is safety, given that many revellers take to stampeding across Macleod in search of a ride. "We want the tourists and Calgary public using taxis to know where they can go to catch one," he said. "It's going to be organized and they can get a ride home without the frustration."

The taxi queue on Macleod would operate in a similar fashion to one run by Associated Cabs at Calgary International Airport, but it would be open to all companies, Campbell said.

As well as the taxi queue, a parking lot nearby could be used as a staging area for drivers. Campbell noted that this year's Stampede falls during Ramadan and the hope is to have halal food available at the staging area after sunset as an incentive for fasting drivers to continue working.

Steve Foster, director of risk management and parking services for the Stampede, said some details are being ironed out but the aim is to implement changes before this year's Stampede, which runs July 5 to 14.

"We want to make sure whatever decisions we land on are good for all of the people coming to the Calgary Stampede, regardless of how they get here," he said.

What it will cost

- A proposal that's also under review would let limos charge passengers a cheaper half-hour rate. They are currently required to bill for a minimum one-hour's service.
- The proposal for temporary taxi zones and a driver staging area would cost an estimated $30,000. That money would come out of budgets for the Taxi Limousine Advisory Committee and Livery Transport Services.

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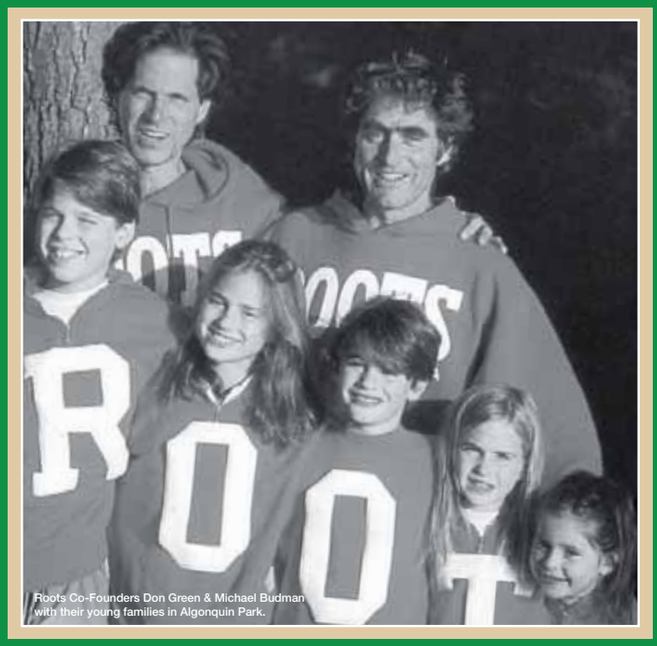

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South Health Campus vice-president Lori Anderson, left, and Michelle Stasiuk, co-chair of the Community Advisory Team, which helped design the massive new facility, have said that some of the hospital's unique methods of operation make it more efficient and patient-friendly. ROBSON FLETCHER/METRO

Calgary's newest hospital may hold keys to meeting new budget demands

Efficiencies. Different ways of delivering health care could help AHS meet tightening targets after provincial funding cuts

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As Alberta Health Services looks to save $220 million a year by finding local-level efficiencies in its system, new methods employed at Calgary's South Health Campus could serve as a model for other hospitals.

The newly built — and still not fully operational — mega-hospital in the city's southeast has several unique ways of organizing staff and interacting with patients, said Lori Anderson, vice-president of South Health Campus.

"As new ideas are brought forward and tried out, then we share them," she said. "And then if they result in improved care or efficiencies, then they're spread to all the other sites."

One such new idea is the "rapid-access unit," Anderson said, which is designed specially for patients who need speedy care but also "need a little bit longer stay" in order to have more extensive tests done, wait for test results, or undergo further observation.

"So rather than having to take up a spot in emerg, they can go to this unit," Anderson said. "That is a unique innovation for this site."

Another unique approach at South Health Campus is keeping paramedics on the hospital's emergency-department staff, rather than having them only attached to ambulances that come and go.

"Their scope of practice is a bit different than an RN, so they're able to do things like triage and assess and suture," Anderson said. "We're really having everybody work to full scope of practice, so that they're doing everything they can do within their legislated role and then working together in a team."

The entire South Health Campus was built from the ground up with design input from a Community Advisory Team, made up of dozens of citizen volunteers who offered advice on making the facility more patient-friendly.

Michelle Stasiuk has been a member of that team for more than five years now, and said she still regularly consults with hospital staff to improve patients' experiences.

One of her favourite features of the new hospital is the extra day beds offered in most rooms, allowing family members to stay with patients.

Stasiuk said the presence of a loved one is not only comforting, it also accelerates the healing process and makes the hospital more efficient.

"Without a doubt, it sends you home sooner," she said.

AHS seeking local efficiencies

When Alberta Health Services announced its new budget earlier this month, the board of directors said it would seek to find $220 million in annual, operational savings over the next three years.

- "We're looking not to reduce services; we're looking to find efficiencies and increase productivity," said chief operating officer Chris Mazurkewich.
- How to do that, exactly, will be left up to local decision makers. "We've trained, over the last three years, thousands of people in process improvement and we're looking for those individuals to take the leadership of how we do this," Mazurkewich said.

Impact of MRU cuts feared

Nursing. Union says health-care system could be sent on 'roller-coaster ride' in future

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Alberta hospitals will further struggle to fill nursing positions in future years as a direct result of admission cutbacks at a Calgary university, a provincial union is warning.

Mount Royal University will admit 110 fewer nurses than planned into its bachelor of nursing program this fall.

Institution provost and vice-president academic Manuel Mertin put the blame for that decision squarely on the provincial government, claiming they pledged in December an additional $5.6 million to compensate for over-enrolment. That money never came, Mertin said, adding the province OK'd the admissions reduction.

According to an admissions report from earlier this month, 1,755 people had applied to attend Mount Royal's nursing program this fall — now, only 210 will be accepted. But Gina Gariano with the Advanced Education Ministry said there's been a 35 per cent increase in Alberta nursing graduates over the past six years.

"Even with the changes that are happening at Mount Royal, we are poised to meet provincial targets annually over the next several years," she added.

United Nurses of Alberta president Heather Smith, however, said she isn't convinced the province will hit a 2014 target to graduate 2,000 nurses. Her organization has long warned of qualified staff shortages in the field.

"They didn't even sell us tickets to this roller-coaster ride — they're just putting us on it again," she said.

Mount Royal University nursing students Gillan McArthur, left, and Courtney Berglind are seen testing their skills on a practice dummy inside the institution's lab last year. METRO FILE

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Shakespeare in the Park supporters attempt to ward off tragic ending

Recent budget cuts threaten a Calgary Shakespearean showcase, but advocates are vowing to try to save the popular performances from the slings and arrows of outrageous fortune.

Mount Royal University announced Tuesday it will suspend its theatre programs as part of a slate of academic changes to save $5 million. Those offerings provide a pool for many of the actors and technical directors involved with putting on the annual Shakespeare in the Park event.

An already planned presentation of Romeo and Juliet will still go ahead at Prince's Island Park from June 26 to Aug. 10. After that, the future of the popular event, which can draw daily crowds of more than 600 people, remains uncertain.

Theatre Calgary president Tom McCabe said, however, the final curtain hasn't been drawn on the 26-year showcase just yet. "It will be sad to lose Mount Royal as a partner — it's been fun," he said. "We do still have other actors involved from Athabasca University, Red Deer, Edmonton and so on."

Mount Royal president David Docherty does serve on Theatre Calgary's board of directors; however, McCabe holds no grudge, openly sympathizing with the institution's current financial predicament created primarily through a 7.3 per cent reduction in provincial grants. JEREMY NOLAIS/METRO

Post-secondary

Edmonton schools also cutting staff

A day after Calgary's Mount Royal University announced program and staff cuts as well as increased student fees, more details emerged about similar reductions at Edmonton's post-secondary institutions.

At NAIT, staff in certain programs are being asked to consider leaving the institution through voluntary buyouts. METRO EDMONTON

Mount Royal. Work to design new library suspended

Mount Royal University's president confirmed to faculty and students at town-hall meetings this week that the institution has shelved design work for a long-awaited library and learning centre, pending clarification on provincial funding for the project.

The $85.5-million project was initially proposed in 2007 and deemed necessary for the institution's transfer from college to university, which went ahead anyway in 2009.

In last month's provincial budget, the province announced $30 million over three years for the project, but a timeline for the rest of the funding is unclear, university provost and vice-president academic Manuel Mertin said in an interview Wednesday.

JEREMY NOLAIS/METRO

Students appalled by $75 parking penalty beneath The Bow

Nicole Saxton, left, and Chelsea Smyth say they were shocked when they returned from a Saturday night event and a Vinci Park pay machine at The Bow informed them they owed $70 more than they initially believed. Inset: This sign on this indoor payment machine is confusing at best and contradictory at worst, the students said. ROBSON FLETCHER/METRO

Sticker shock. Mount Royal students believe policy isn't clear; charges customers exorbitant amounts if they are a single minute late

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Parking in Calgary is known to be expensive, but two Mount Royal University students say the $75 fee they were charged for an extra 20 minutes in the lot beneath The Bow is downright ridiculous.

"The parking price was listed as $5 after 6 p.m., which we thought was reasonable," said Nicole Saxton, who was attending a conference at the Hyatt Hotel with friends earlier this month. "After the event, we were surprised that the charge came up as $75."

Chelsea Smyth said the group was skeptical at first.

"We thought it was a joke, like somebody was playing a prank on us," she said. "We can't afford to pay $75. How do you justify that?"

Morten Paulsen, who handles public relations for The Bow, referred parking-related inquiries to the company that runs the lot, Vinci Park, but Vinci did not return calls from Metro.

There are signs posted as drivers enter the lot that say: "Overstay penalty of $75 flat per day," but Saxton said she didn't notice them on the way in, and after seeing them later thought they were confusing.

She also noted a different sign on an indoor parking payment machine says: "Flat Rate (Enter after 6 p.m. to 4 a.m. next day): $5.00."

Saxton said the group parked at about 7 p.m. and stayed for four hours and 20 minutes.

'Ridiculous'

- Nicole Saxton said she called Vinci and spoke with a company employee, who told her the $75 fee applies if you are parked there one minute over four hours.
- "This policy is ridiculous," Saxton said. "If more people knew about this policy, I don't think many would be parking here."

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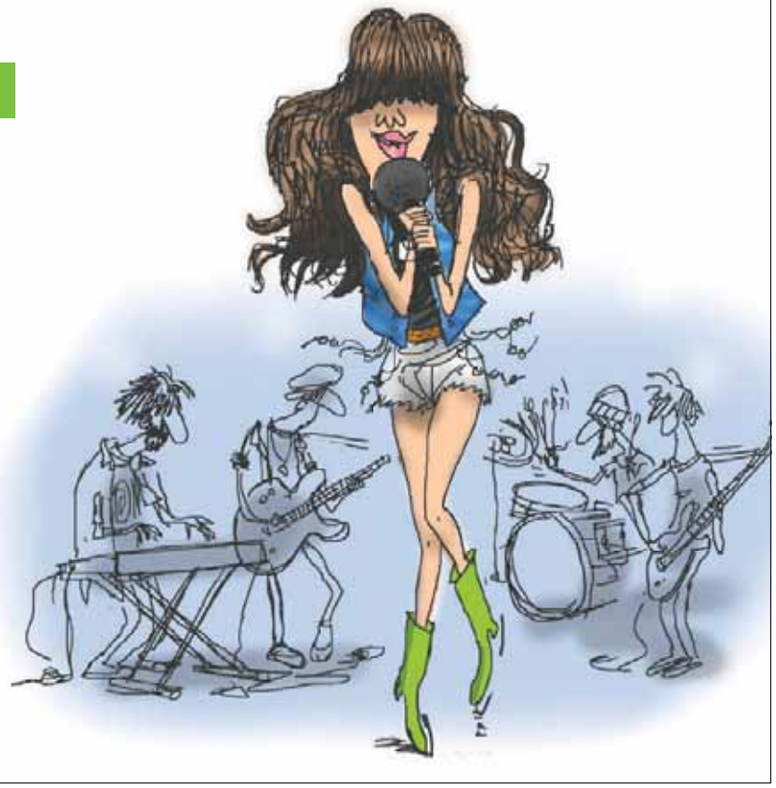

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Unanimous vote. Calgary Board of Education trustees to take pay cut

Elected officials with the Calgary Board of Education approved a pay cut for their own positions during a board meeting Tuesday.

The trustees unanimously voted to scale back the honorarium they receive to $45,000 per year for the 2013-14 school year from $46,618, which amounts to a 3.5 per cent decrease.

According to the CBE, the chair and vice-chair of the board will also receive less, though the amount was not specified in a release issued Wednesday.

Board members will also pay for their own parking at CBE headquarters — a move the organization said will save $1,500 per year, per trustee.

"These are difficult financial times and the board felt we needed to make cuts to ensure the most dollars possible are preserved for classrooms," said board chair Pat Cochrane in a statement. "It was the right thing to do."

The cost savings from the remuneration cuts will save the CBE just over $11,000 annually, which it says will contribute to the reductions the organization is making in its operating budget, which is facing a $62-million shortfall.

The changes to the trustees' pay are effective as of Sept. 1.

METRO

More details

- The CBE said trustees also considered a report that lays out plans for 12.5 per cent cuts to administration.
- The cuts are coming as a result of "essentially flat funding from the province as costs and enrolment are rising," according to a CBE statement.

Jelly Modern Doughnuts wins Donut Showdown

Jelly pastry chef Grayson Shermon and co-owner Rosanne Tripathy hold up a mango, mint and lime chutney doughnut that helped them win Food Network Canada's Donut Showdown. KATIE TURNER/METRO

Dough for good dough.

The $10,000 prize will be used to open Jelly in Toronto next month

The Calgary doughnut masters of Jelly Modern Doughnuts have proven they can hold up to the heat of the fryer after winning Food Network Canada's Donut Showdown.

Pastry chef Grayson Shermon and co-owner Rosanne Tripathy battled against fellow donut-shop chefs in a series of battles on the episode, which aired Tuesday night.

"It was like what you see on Cupcake Wars or Top Chef. The panic is all real," said Tripathy, who acted as an assistant to Shermon.

In the final round, it was three Bollywood-themed treats that won the title and the $10,000 prize for Jelly, one of which was an homage to the popular Nenshi Salted Caramel sold at the shop and named after Calgary's mayor.

"It was a very cool experience," said Shermon.

"It was very much like another day at work because you're always working with time constraints and getting the freshest, prettiest, tastiest product out there."

The team at Jelly handed out samples of its winning doughnuts Wednesday to a lineup of people over the lunch hour.

"In honour of the win, we decided to give the doughnuts out as a gift to thank Calgary for the support." KATIE TURNER/METRO

Loose clothing advised

- The store will be featuring some of its creations from Donut Showdown over the coming days.
- Sisters Rosanne and Rita Tripathy opened the shop in 2011.

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Heated debate at legislature over exec health care

Shouting. Executive test expenses leads to political grandstanding on both sides of the floor

Alberta's legislature erupted in shouts and accusations Wednesday after the Opposition Wildrose party said it found evidence that another health executive got fast-track private care at public expense.

Premier Alison Redford's government, however, said the case of Alison Tonge is no such thing.

Wildrose Leader Danielle Smith told the house in question period that documents from a freedom of information search showed that Tonge was reimbursed $1,160 by Alberta Health Services last year for diagnostic tests at a private Edmonton clinic.

"This is two-tier, queue-jumping expense-account abuse all wrapped up in one offensive package. Someone needs to lose their job," Smith told the house.

Redford fired back that the Wildrose was off base.

"The purpose of question period is not to come up with false allegations, mischaracterizations and undermine public health care," she said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

History of Tonge

- The Tonge tests were completed in December 2011, and the expenses approved by Dr. Chris Eagle, president of Alberta Health Services, in 2012.
- Tonge has since left AHS, receiving $426,576 in severance according to the Wildrose, and now works for the National Health Service in England.

Calgary Zoo. Elephant relocation plan coming

The Calgary Zoo is close to making a decision on a new home for its female elephants, though it's unclear when the animals would be leaving.

Last year the zoo announced it was going to relocate the elephants because, after 40 years, the zoo couldn't give the animals the space they required.

A decision will be coming within six weeks, after zoo officials finish visiting sites to determine the best placement for Kamala, Swarna and Maharani.

The zoo says the elephants' long-term welfare is better served by being part of a large social group, something that can only be achieved at a facility with more year-round space.

Spokesperson Trish Exton-Parder said there is no time frame on how soon the elephants would be leaving Calgary for one of the nine facilities on the shortlist.

"It's not a simple process; it's quite complex," she said. "The decision is certainly not taken lightly."

While Exton-Parder could not comment on the locations under consideration, she said they're all outside of Canada.

A decision on a new home for Spike, the male elephant, will be made in conjunction with the Miami Zoo, which still owns him.

KATIE TURNER/METRO, WITH FILES FROM THE CANADIAN PRESS

The Calgary Zoo will be relocating their elephants after making a decision in the coming weeks on the best facility for them. METRO FILE

Developmentally disabled

Petition growing to keep Alberta care home open

An online petition to keep open a central Alberta care home for the developmentally disabled is growing.

A spokesman for a group supporting the Michener Centre in Red Deer says more than 1,500 people have signed on.

Bill Lough with the Society of Parents and Friends of the Michener Centre says volunteers are collecting even more signatures by going door to door.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Crash on Highway 550

Collision between vehicle and horses kills woman, 19

A young woman is dead after the small car she was driving was severely damaged in a collision with two horses in southern Alberta.

The crash happened Tuesday evening on Highway 550 near Duchess, about 200 kilometres east of Calgary.

RCMP say the 19-year-old victim, who was the lone occupant of the car, was heading east toward the small community when her vehicle slammed into the horses.

They say the animals were in the middle of the road, and that weather conditions were clear. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Buzzfeed 'honour'

Nenshi beat by cat for the top spot on ridiculous leader list

Calgary's mayor Naheed Nenshi has once again received a shout-out for his social-media skills on an online list from the popular website Buzzfeed.

The list, however, is titled The 15 Most Ridiculous World Leaders Of All Time, and has Nenshi in the 13th spot, along with Canadian leaders such as Toronto Mayor Rob Ford and Prime Minister Stephen Harper.

In the top spot is Mayor Stubbs of Talkeetna, Alaska, who happens to be a cat.

METRO

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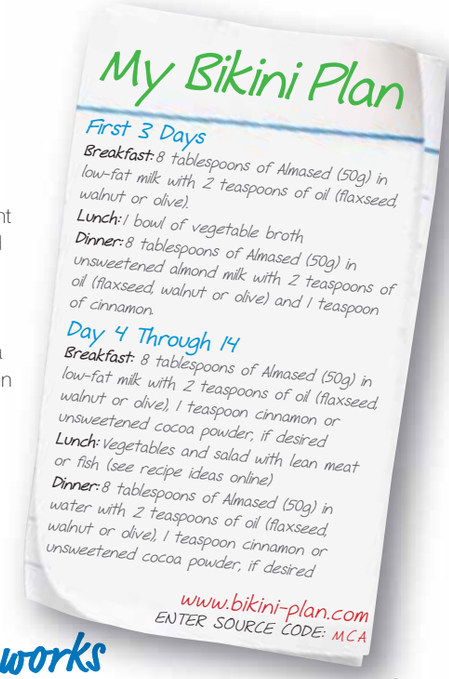
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Ex-implant magnate faces women's fury

Giant trial. More than 5,000 plaintiffs join historic fraud case that accuses firm of using cheap and risky industrial silicone

Hundreds of women gathered Wednesday in a makeshift courthouse in the south of France. They were angry and wanted justice.

The women had received breast implants said to be prone to rupture and leak.

And the women's fury was centred on five executives accused of using cheap industrial silicone to fill tens of thousands of breast implants that were sold around the world.

Jean-Claude Mas, who founded and ran implant-maker Poly Implant Prothese, is among those on trial in Marseille.

The now-defunct company had claimed its factory in France exported to more than 60 countries and was one of the world's leading implant makers.

More than 125,000 women worldwide received them until sales ended in March 2010. Of those, more than 5,000 are joining the fraud trial, saying the executives misled them into believing the implants were safe.

Mas' lawyers said the number of women listed in the case as victims is the largest in French judicial history and said the trial was too unwieldy to continue.

Mas declined comment as he entered a Marseille convention centre — turned into a courthouse to host all those participating in the trial.

He has said he never intended harm and his lawyers said the company's failure ruined him financially.

"He didn't have to be present — he could have said he was sick, which he is," said Yves Haddad, Mas' lawyer. "He was ready to be here and to answer questions."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Quoted

"Women have lost their jobs because of him, their health because of him."

Joelle Manighetti, a French woman who received the implants, talking about Jean-Claude Mas

Breast-implant-firm founder Jean-Claude Mas takes a cigarette break outside the trial Wednesday. PASCAL GUYOT/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

Student in pain. Medical marijuana lights up a controversy at school

A post-secondary student in Calgary is raising questions about whether she should be allowed to take her medication at school.

Her medication is … medical marijuana.

Lisa Kirkman studies journalism at the Southern Alberta Institute of Technology (SAIT) and suffers from chronic pain and a blood disorder.

She manages her condition with the aid of the marijuana, which she takes through a vaporizer.

The vaporizer produces an odour and makes a slight noise — and has caught the attention of school officials.

Kirkman says she has been told SAIT may ask her not to use the vaporizer within any of its buildings. SAIT says no decisions have been made.

"This is a unique situation and we are reviewing our options to ensure that SAIT meets all of its legal obligations," the school said in a statement.

GLOBAL CALGARY

A Calgary student uses marijuana to stifle pain. Should she be allowed to take it at school? GENARO MOLINA/LOS ANGELES TIMES/MCT/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE/FILE

Appeal court quandary. Is is OK to try to turn a gay teenager straight?

Should mental-health professionals be prevented from offering therapies aimed at making gay and lesbian teenagers straight?

A federal appeals court in California on Wednesday grappled with a first-in-the-U.S. bid to ban them.

The "pivot point"of the legal debate, as Judge Morgan Christen called it, appears to be whether such counselling is speech protected by the First Amendment or medical treatment that can be regulated by government.

California Deputy Attorney General Alexandra Robert Gordon, who is defending the ban, cited testimony before the state legislature by people who said they were harmed by the counselling.

Chief Judge Alex Kozinski said opponents of the law also testified they benefited from the counselling.

"There is evidence going both ways," Kozinski concluded.

The law says therapists and counsellors who treat minors with methods designed to eliminate or reduce their same-sex attractions would be engaging in unprofessional conduct and subject to discipline.

The cases before the appeals court were brought by professionals who practise sexual-orientation change therapy, two families who say their teenage sons benefited from it, and a national association of Christian mental-health counsellors.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Hold everything

The ban was to take effect Jan. 1, but the appeals court put the law on hold until it can resolve the issue.

Graphic content

Jealous wife cut and threw out hubby's penis, jury told

A California prosecutor says a jealous wife yelled, "You deserve it" before severing her estranged husband's penis with a kitchen knife and throwing it in a garbage disposal.

A jury heard opening statements Wednesday in the case of Catherine Kieu, 50, who is accused of drugging her husband's tofu with sleeping pills and tying him to a bed before the attack.

Deputy District Attorney John Christl says audio of the July 11, 2011, incident was captured by a voice-activated recorder Kieu had hidden in the bedroom.

Deputy Public Defender Frank Bittar says that Kieu's traumatic childhood in Vietnam, including rape by a brother, caused mental illness.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Brr! It's only 1 C

Why the 'Peg is feeling more than a little weather-worn

After an unseasonably warm spring in 2012, Winnipeg is paying back.

Wednesday's high of 1 C marked a new record for the weather-worn city, which has now seen 37 consecutive days of below-normal temperatures.

It's also the latest date in more than 140 years in which temperatures had yet to reach 5 C. The last time it took this long to reach 5 C was in 1872, says Environment Canada.

As an aside, the last time the city failed to reach 5 C by April 15 was in 1950, when it was later flooded in an event only over-shadowed by the Flood of the Century in 1997.

More floods may be in store for Winnipeg and southern Manitoba this spring.

ELISHA DACEY/METRO IN WINNIPEG

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Plus, with identity theft on the rise, the Change of Address service helps keep your personal information safe by making sure it stays in your hands.

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Research consistently shows that moving is one of the most stressful of life events.

Stress feeds not just on the act of moving, but on all those annoying tasks that need to get done before the big day. So it's no wonder that movers flock to services that can lessen their load – like the Change of Address service offered by Canada Post. With the Change of Address service, Canada Post forwards all your mail to your new address. You can sign up online, and you can schedule when your service will take effect. One reason movers like this service: peace of mind. You don't have to worry about whether you've notified all the necessary companies, government agencies, friends and family about your new address before you move. You can take your time and do it when it's more convenient. Meanwhile, you'll still receive the mail that's been sent to your old address.

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Boston bombing. Student snuffed out in her prime

Less than 24 hours before she died, Lu Lingzi sent an exuberant email to a professor after learning she had passed part of a major final exam.

"I am so happy to get this result!" she wrote. "Thank you very much."

Lu, 23, was killed on Monday in the Boston Marathon explosions, according to a statement from Boston University. She was a graduate student studying mathematics and statistics and was scheduled to receive her degree in 2015.

Lu was at the race with two friends from BU. One, Danling Zhou, was injured and is in stable condition, the school said.

Lu Lingzi

On Monday morning, Lu put the finishing touches on a research project she was set to present.

Lu was a vivacious chatterbox who had lots of friends on campus, said Tasso Kaper, chair of the math and statistics department. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

West, Texas

Fertilizer plant explodes, causing numerous injuries

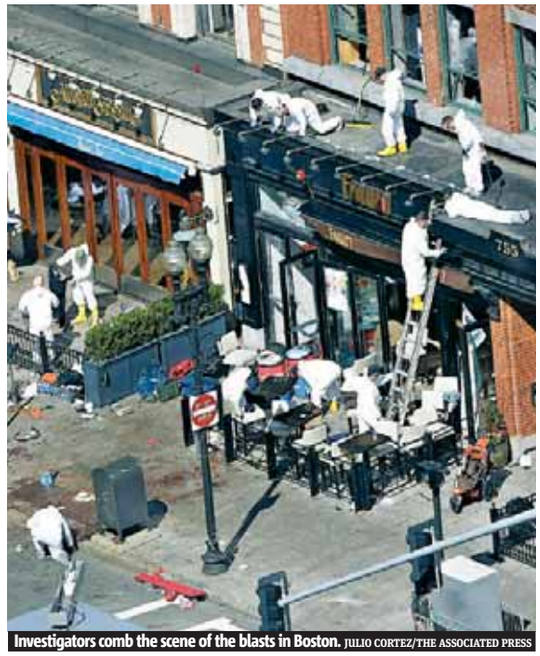
An explosion Wednesday at a fertilizer plant near Waco sent flames shooting high into the night sky, leaving the factory a smouldering ruin, causing major damage to nearby buildings and injuring numerous people.

There were no immediate indications that the explosion was part of an attack.

Several fires continued to burn in West hours after the blast. The explosion knocked out power to many customers and could be heard and felt for many miles around.

There were no fatalities reported at press time. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Man arrested, accused of mailing poison to president


Investigators comb the scene of the blasts in Boston. JULIO CORTEZ/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

United States on edge. Media overwhelmed with flood of news on letters, Boston bombings

America's frayed nerves found little relief on Wednesday as news emerged of a poison-laced letter addressed to U.S. President Barack Obama, while investigators endeavoured to close in on a suspect in the Boston Marathon bombings.

Agents arrested Paul Kevin Curtis, 45, in Tupelo, Miss., in connection with letters sent to Obama and a Republican senator from Mississippi. They tested positive for deadly ricin in preliminary analyses.

The Mississippi Clarion-Ledger reported that Curtis is a celebrity impersonator and an avid church-goer. He lamented the lack of prayer in schools in a recent Facebook post on the Boston bombings.

Earlier in the day, officials said they doubted the letters were linked to the bombings.

With Americans anxious for a break in the bombing case, information was being leaked to the media at a furious speed.

At one point mid-afternoon, The Associated Press cited one official as saying an arrest was imminent. CNN said an arrest had been made. Other officials shot down those reports.

Several outlets said investigators had identified a suspect from a surveillance video. CBS News reported that the bomber was on the phone when he dropped off a second backpack and that cellphone records identified the suspect. But NBC reported police had a face, not a name. THE CANADIAN PRESS

From the letters

"To see a wrong and not expose it, is to become a silent partner to its continuance."

A passage from the letters, signed "KC, and I approve this message."

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Normal Blood Sugar Levels ☐	High Blood Sugar ☐	Autoimmune Disorder ☐
Normal Triglyceride Levels ☐	Elevated Triglycerides ☐	Allergies ☐
	Circulatory Issues ☐	Chronic Prostatitis ☐
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Europe. Serbia, Kosovo try again to settle differences

The leaders of Serbia and Kosovo tried again Wednesday to resolve their differences after an earlier EU-brokered proposal was rejected.

The thorniest issue dividing the two sides is the status of northern Kosovo, which is inhabited predominantly by ethnic Serbs who reject the authority of the government in Pristina, Kosovo's capital.

A European Union spokeswoman said late Wednesday that Serbian Prime Minister Ivica Dacic and Kosovo Prime Minister Hashim Thaci had resumed their talks after a break of more than two hours. Their first session lasted about four-and-a-half hours.

While many other countries have recognized Kosovo as an independent nation since it gained statehood 2008, Serbia has not.

One condition for Serbia's eventual membership in the European Union is that it "normalize" relations with its neighbours.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Greece

Migrant farmers shot in pay dispute

At least 20 migrant strawberry pickers were shot and wounded in southern Greece on Wednesday, in a pay dispute after a foreman opened fire on them with a shotgun, police said.

The incident occurred near the village of Manolada about 260 kilometres west of Athens.

Police Capt. Haralambos Sfetsos said most of the wounded workers were from Bangladesh. The shooting occurred when 200 workers demanded six months' unpaid wages and "moved threateningly" toward three foremen, when one opened fire.

The owner of the site has been detained for questioning while arrest warrants have been issued for three foremen, all of whom are Greek.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Crown Prince: Don't call me 'your majesty'

Netherlands royalty. Monarch-to-be reaches out to the commoners ahead of his investiture

Dutch Crown Prince Willem-Alexander set the tone Wednesday for what could be a relatively laid-back monarchy, saying in his last major interview before he becomes king that his subjects don't have to address him as 'your majesty.'

The prince's comments, in a pre-recorded television interview, are an indication that he could be an informal monarch more in the style of his grandmother, Queen Juliana — known for her folksy style and riding her bicycle in public.

The 45-year-old prince and his Argentine-born wife, Princess Maxima, will become king and queen when his mother, Queen Beatrix, abdicates April 30 after 33 years on the throne.

"I'm not a protocol fetishist. People can address me however they want," Willem-Alexander said. "For me, it is about people feeling at ease when I'm with them."

Willem-Alexander touched briefly on a family tragedy that will hang over celebrations surrounding his investiture — his brother Prince Johan Friso has been in a coma for more than a year since being caught in an avalanche while skiing in Austria.

"For the family, it is a very difficult moment," he said.

Also absent on the day will be Maxima's father, Jorge Zorreguieta, who was an agriculture minister in the military junta that ruled Argentina with an iron fist in the late 1970s and early 1980s.

His role in the brutal regime means he will not be in Amsterdam on April 30.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A tram adorned with the Dutch flag and Royal Cap is seen in Amsterdam on Wednesday. The decorations commemorate the abdication of Queen Beatrix, who will step down April 30. PETER DEJONG/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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The environmental group Canopy was instrumental in putting together the Canadian Boreal Forest Agreement in 2010.
TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE FILE

Conservation group drops out of alliance with forest industry

Canopy. 'Nothing to show for three years of work,' group says

A key environmental group has pulled out of a national alliance with the forest industry that was meant to protect the boreal forest while restoring the sector's international reputation for conservation.

Canopy, a conservation group instrumental in putting together the Canadian Boreal Forest Agreement in 2010, says it is quitting the alliance because there has been nothing to show for three years of work.

Canopy's Nicole Rycroft said they will instead pressure buyers.

Bowing out

"What we're seeing is, we're three years in, there are literally no results on the ground and it's time to go."
Canopy executive director Nicole Rycroft

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Cancer drugs

Diluted drug problem not confined to Ontario: Minister

Both the federal and Ontario governments say it's not clear how many companies like the one that supplied diluted cancer drugs to five hospitals in Ontario and New Brunswick are operating in Canada.

Ontario Health Minister Deb Matthews acknowledged Wednesday that she doesn't know how many companies like Marchese Hospital Solutions are operating in Ontario and mixing drugs for hospitals.

Finding that out is part of the investigation into the province's cancer drug supply that's already underway, she said. "This is not confined to Ontario," Matthews said.

"My big responsibility is to Ontario patients, that's why I'm taking this so seriously. That's why I've established this group, even though it's pretty clear that this is a national and indeed an international problem."

Health Canada said it's aware of at least one other company like Marchese operating in Ontario. More than 1,200 cancer patients received diluted drugs.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Gov't propaganda takes over the weather site

Canadians checking the local weather on the federal government's website may have to squint to see the Environment Canada logo, but they'll get an eyeful of the Conservative "economic action plan."

The government says that the site — weather.gc.ca — has been given "a fresh new look."

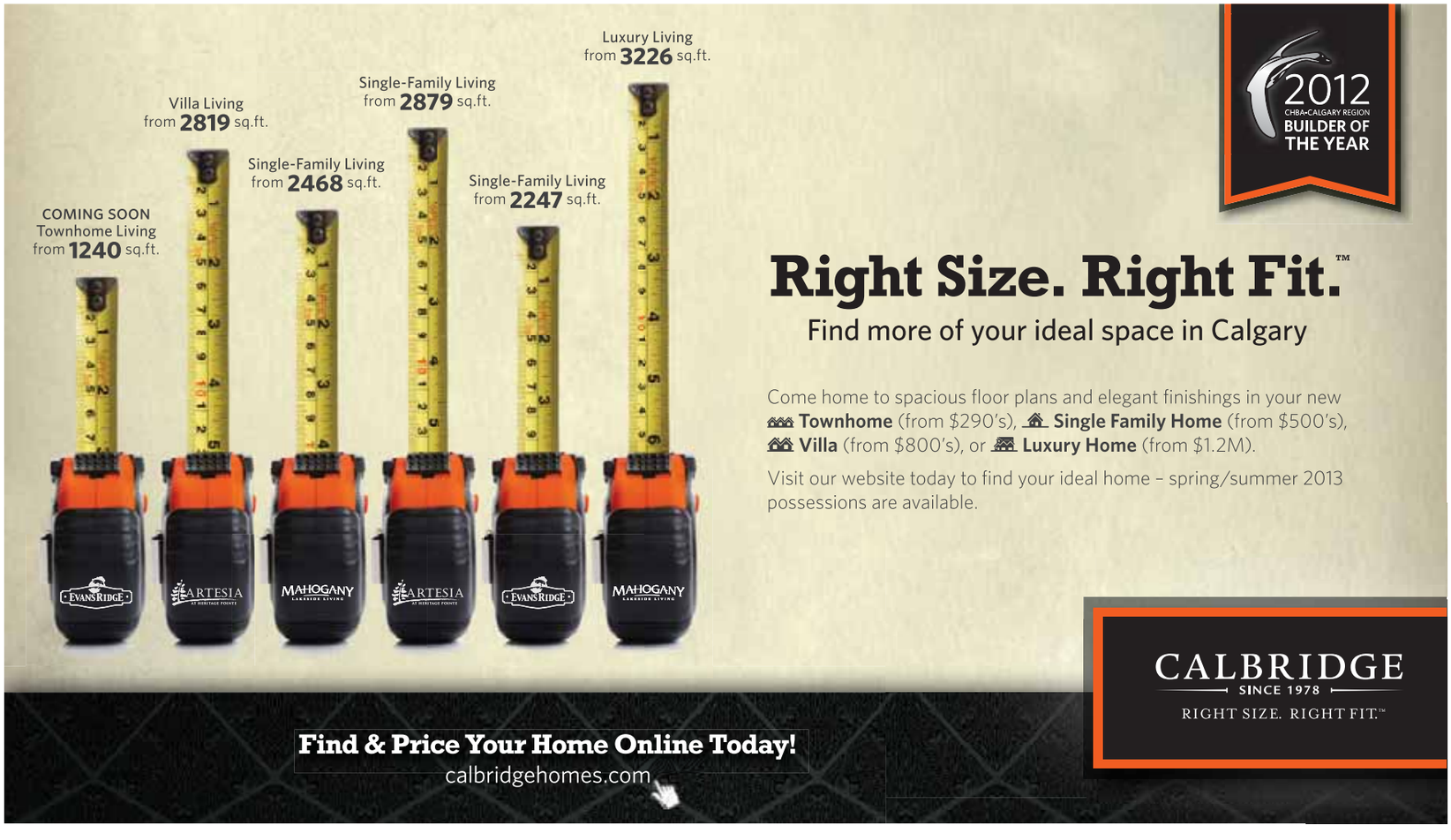
The makeover includes removing from the top of the page the name and familiar logo of the federal department that provides meteorological information on cities and towns across the country.

Except for the interactive main page with its multiple maps, in which Environment Canada is embedded in fine print above Iqaluit on the map of Canada, the logo has all but disappeared from the site.

What does appear prominently is a trio of brightly coloured links that promote last month's federal budget, the generic "economic action plan" website, and the Canada Revenue Agency's slogan: Tax Savings Working For You.

A spokeswoman for Environment Canada said the makeover simply follows new Treasury Board guidelines designed to make web applications more user friendly.

THE CANADIAN PRESS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Iron Lady laid to rest in a grand funeral

Margaret Thatcher. Some camped in a field to be there; mourners included the Queen and reps from 170 countries

Margaret Thatcher was laid to rest Wednesday with prayers and ceremony, plus cheers and occasional jeers, as Britain paused to remember a leader who transformed the country — for the better according to many, but in some eyes for the worse.

A sombre crowd lined the normally buzzing streets around parliament, contained behind temporary fences and police lines, waiting to see catch a glimpse of Thatcher's coffin. The coffin was put on a gun carriage for the road to St. Paul's Cathedral.

Soaring hymns, biblical verse echoed under the dome of St. Paul's as 2,300 relatives, friends, colleagues and dignitaries attended the ceremonial funeral. Bishop of London Richard Chartres spoke of the strong feelings Thatcher still evokes. KIERON MONKS/METRO, WITH FILES FROM THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Still controversial after all these years

Margaret Thatcher — the Iron Lady — brought major change to Britain during her 11-year tenure from 1979 to 1990, privatizing state industries, deregulating the economy, and causing upheaval whose impact is still felt. She died April 8 at the age of 87.

- Her funeral's $15-million cost proved controversial, and a small anti-Thatcher group turned their backs on the carriage. Others countered with flowers.

Mourners react as Margaret Thatcher's coffin passes.
CARL COURT/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

China

Deaths of 530 pigs and dogs investigated

Hundreds more pigs have been found dead in China — this time together with dozens of dogs.

A total of 410 pigs and 122 dogs were discovered earlier this week in central Henan province. It's suspected the deaths had to do with chemical factories that have been ordered to suspend production.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

'Name and shame'

Syria's army accused of sexual war crimes

The UN Security Council on Wednesday heard accusations that Syria's army, intelligence agency and a pro-government militia are sexual war criminals for rape and assaults on women and children, along with the al-Qaida movement in Mali.

The "name and shame" tally was in a UN report.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Quake's painful aftermath

A nurse treats an injured girl evacuated from an earthquake-affected area at a military hospital in Quetta, Pakistan, on Wednesday. The country evacuated 16 seriously injured people after 36 were killed and thousands of Pakistanis left homeless following this week's quake.

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1 in 7 Canadians aged 14-59 may have herpes virus

Sexually transmitted infections. New study of herpes simplex type 2 virus and chlamydia finds majority don't realize they are infected

As many as one in seven Canadians aged 14 to 59 may be infected with herpes simplex type 2 virus and more than 90 per cent of them may be unaware of their status, a new study suggests.

The work provides the first Canadian prevalence estimates for herpes simplex 2 and chlamydia — another sexually transmitted infection — that are based on laboratory-confirmed results. Previous estimates were based on data collected from positive cases or screening of people considered to be at high risk of having the infections, a system that may not provide a true picture of the scale of infections.

The research was part of the analysis of urine and blood samples and data collected during the 2009-11 cycle of Statistics Canada's Canadian Health Measures Survey. The results, which are considered a representative sample of most Canadians in that age group, are based on the study of blood and urine samples taken from roughly 3,250 Canadians.

The study found that less than one per cent — 0.7 per cent to be precise — of people tested were infected with chlamydia. Participants were asked if they had ever been diagnosed with a sexually transmitted infection and none of those who tested positive for chlamydia reported having received a diagnosis of an STI.

Although it is a reportable disease, chlamydia is what's known as a silent infection. Most people have no symptoms. Antibiotics can cure the infection. Herpes simplex 2 is also often an asymptomatic infection, though it can appear as blisters and sores around the genitals, rectum or mouth.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Most not aware

6%

Of those who tested positive for herpes simplex 2, only six per cent were aware that they carried the virus.

Charged over Instagram post

Jennifer Pawluck, charged after posting an Instagram photo of graffiti showing Montreal police Cmdr. Ian Lafreniere with a bullet in his head, leaves the courtroom following her arraignment Wednesday in Montreal. Pawluck, 20, is charged with criminal harassment. Her case was put off until May 24, when her trial date may be set. PAUL CHIASSON/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Legislation blocked

Obama calls gun-control defeat by Senate 'shameful'

The U.S. Senate blocked bipartisan legislation Wednesday aimed at tightening restrictions on the sale of firearms, a huge defeat for President Barack Obama and a rejection of personal pleas by families of the victims of last winter's mass elementary school shooting in Connecticut.

An attempt to ban assault weapons and a ban on high-capacity ammunition magazines were also rejected in series of showdown votes four months after a gunman killed 20 school children and six staff members at Sandy Hook Elementary School.

The background-check measure commanded a majority of senators, 54-46, but that was well short of the 60 votes needed to advance.

Speaking to the nation after the vote Obama said a minority the senators decided "it wasn't worth it" to protect the nation's children.

"All in all, this was a pretty shameful day for Washington," Obama said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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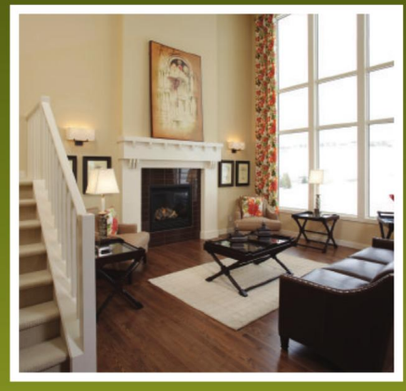

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Attack ads? More like a Trudeau treasure trove

$336,000 bounty. Donations pour in after mass emails urge the Liberals to fight back against Tory salvos

On the job as Liberal leader: Justin Trudeau hits his stride at his first caucus meeting in Ottawa on Wednesday. ADRIAN WYLD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Conservative attack ads against Justin Trudeau have turned into a financial boon for the Liberal party.

The party raised $336,000 in the 48 hours following Trudeau's landslide victory in the Liberal leadership race Sunday.

Officials say that's more than double the party's previous top haul for an email fundraising campaign.

And they say the donations poured in after two back-to-back mass email solicitations that urged Liberals to fight back against Conservative attacks.

The first, sent out just as Trudeau was leaving the stage Sunday after delivering his acceptance speech, urged Liberals not to let the coming barrage of "negative and misleading attacks" drown out the new leader's "positive message of change."

The second was issued Monday evening — shortly after the Tories launched three TV ads featuring video of Trudeau doing a mock strip-tease for a charity event.

The Tory ads, set to carnival music and voiced in a mocking tone, assert that the new Liberal leader has neither the experience nor judgment to be prime minister and conclude with the tag line: "Justin Trudeau. He's in way over his head."

Trudeau has vowed to remain positive and not to respond in kind to the negative attacks — which he believes Canadians are heartily fed up with.

Response to the email solicitations, sent out under his name, suggests he may be right.

"The Conservatives are already back in the gutter," he said in the Monday evening email blast.

"Now they're using pictures from a charity fashion show to attack me and undermine what we've built.... They've seen what we can do and they're desperately trying to drown us out with the childish, food-fight politics."

The email also urged people to donate to the Canadian Liver Foundation, the charity for which Trudeau stripped off his jacket, tie and shirt at a fundraising gala in 2011.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Scourge of suicide shatters a reserve

Two recent deaths among members of the Neskantaga First Nation have prompted the remote northern Ontario community to declare a state of emergency.

It wants fast help to stop the scourge of suicide.

The First Nation northeast of Thunder Bay has seen two of its members die over the past two weeks, throwing the fragile community of 300 into grief and fear for the stability of other families.

Chief Peter Moonias said that just as the community was burying the first victim — a man in his 30s — they learned of the death of a 19-year-old from Neskantaga living in Thunder Bay.

Moonias said police have yet to declare the second death a suicide, but he suspects they soon will.

The problems come just a few months after another young man took his life there in December, a tragedy that prompted the community to close ranks and put its youth on suicide watch.

"One suicide, we could have handled.... Not easily, but we could have come back," said Moonias.

But the suicides are coming so close together that almost no one in the community has been left untouched.

And now they can't cope.

"Now we have nothing left. We have hardly anybody who is not affected in the community.

"The community situation ... is in a state of shock."

Federal Health Minister Leona Aglukkaq on Wednesday promised the community the help it needs.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

A chief's pain

Chief Peter Moonias hopes for help from any level of government in putting together a long-term plan to confront serious problems with prescription drugs.

- **Emergency.** He estimates more than half the community's adults are addicted to OxyContin or other painkillers.

Father critical

Two girls killed in pre-dawn fire

Two young girls were killed and a third was in critical condition Wednesday after a pre-dawn fire tore through their home in the Quebec paper-mill community of Thurso, southeast of Ottawa.

The names of the girls, aged three and eight, have not been released. Their father was in critical condition, along with a 12-year-old girl, police said.

Six people in all managed to escape the blaze, said Quebec provincial police Sgt. Marc Tessier.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Seniors targeted

Long-lost kin? They'll scam you

Police in Windsor, Ont., are warning residents, particularly seniors, about con artists posing as long-lost relatives.

Elderly people have received phone calls from supposed relatives in Europe saying they are in Canada and require money for emergencies or large-ticket purchases.

Scammers appear to know personal information about their victims and may speak to them in their own language.

Police say in one case the suspects were mining information from a Facebook page.

While past scams have involved the wire transfer of money, police say scammers are now going to homes to pick up the cash.

METRO ONLINE

Senate to vote

If genetics put you at risk ...

The Liberal leader in the Senate has introduced legislation that would stop insurance companies and others from discriminating against people who are genetically susceptible to some diseases.

Sen. James Cowan's bill, tabled Wednesday, aims to ensure people are not treated differently because testing shows they have higher odds of getting certain diseases.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

CAM CLARK FORD
CALGARY'S BEST DEALS ARE IN AIRDRIE!

... and a supersized meal for the horse

People going for lunch at a McDonald's restaurant in Helsinki this past weekend were surprised to see two policemen on horseback join the drive-thru queue. McDonald's welcomes all horses — ridden by policemen and members of the public alike — to the drive-thrus at their eateries, said a communications director for McDonald's Finland.

JUKKA HIIRO/METRO WORLD NEWS IN HELSINKI

Air travel. Feds should open skies to foreign carriers, CAC argues

The Consumers' Association of Canada is calling for the federal government to allow more competition from foreign airlines. The group says Canada's current policy protects the dominant domestic airlines and limits consumer options.

Association president Bruce Cran says it will use recent polling data to support its call for change in Canada's aviation industry. A Harris/Decima telephone survey of about 1,000 people in late January and early February found 61 per cent of respondents agreed that foreign airlines should be allowed to compete with Canadian carriers.

The survey also found 77 per cent agreed that foreign airlines would give consumers more travel options and 69 per cent agreed they'd lead to lower costs.

"Consumers want choice and competition for their travel dollar," Cran said in a statement Wednesday.

"The CAC will use this public opinion data to renew our call for Canada to adopt a dramatically different approach to international aviation," he added. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

You know you want it: Wearable computing devices like the Pebble smart watch and Google Glass are expected to explode in popularity over the next year and could become the norm within a matter of years, tech analysts say.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE/GETTY IMAGES FILE

So long smartphone, hello smart watch?

Tech trend. Some wearable computing gadgets could have mass appeal, observer says

Using wearable computing devices like smart watches and smart glasses will appeal to consumers as an alternative to pulling out their smartphones, say technology experts. You'll be able to respond to text messages or emails and make phone calls without reaching for your phone, said Info-Tech Research Group's Mark Tauschek.

"If you've got a smart watch on your wrist or you're wearing Google Glass, you're going to get those notifications on your wrist or in your eye so you don't have to reach into your holster or pocket or purse or whatever to grab your smartphone," Tauschek said.

Smart watches that cost between $100 and $200 should have mass appeal and take off within two to five years, predicted Tauschek. "All you really need to get is one really useful, easy to use attractive wearable smart watch and others will follow and it will find a mass market pretty quickly."

There's also Google Glass, expected on the mass market late this year or early next year. The glasses respond to voice commands instead of fingers touching a display screen and they're equipped with a camera and tiny display screen attached to a rim above the right eye. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Smart watches

- Smart watches such as Pebble, I'm Watch and Martian use Bluetooth technology to pair with smartphones, and do some of their work.
- Apple, Google and Samsung are also reportedly pursuing smart watches.

Market Minute

DOLLAR 97.41¢ (-0.58¢)

Natural gas: $4.20 (+4¢)
Dow Jones: 14,618.59 (-138.19)

TSX 11,947.29 (-172.64)

OIL $86.68 US (-$2.04)

GOLD $1,382.70 US (-$4.70)

Bling on the beat

Dubai police add Ferrari to fleet

Seems Dubai police have a thing for Italian speed: They're making preparations to have a nearly $250,000 US Ferrari join an even pricier Lamborghini as the flagship flash of its fleet.

Photos carried Wednesday by the Emirates 24/7 online newspaper show the car getting the green-and-white colours of Dubai's police force. Last week the force unveiled a nearly $550,000 US Lamborghini Aventador.

The two cars will roll through tourist zones in yet another expression of the city's endless pursuit of glitz. Next up? Police say they are working on converting the classic American muscle car Camaro model into a fleet of regular squad cars. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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CLEAN? OVER MY DEAD BODY

HE SAYS

John Mazerolle
metronews.ca

Ah, spring! That magical time of year when a single man's fancy turns to removing from the refrigerator items that are branded "Official sponsor of the Vancouver Olympics."

Yes, it's time for spring cleaning.

According to a Wikipedia entry that I just wrote, spring cleaning as a modern ritual dates back to the 1920s, with the annual cleanup at the Slinky factory in Ohio, where workers would clean the toy springs top to bottom in time for autumn inspection.

This adjectival misunderstanding led people to dust, mop and organize their homes every spring as the weather warmed, which was convenient because those sexy outfits that maids are always wearing are terribly nippy in the winter.

The event caught on and now almost everybody does it. Even I take part in spring cleaning, despite the fact that I practise a special bachelorhood religion that considers dust bunnies sacred.

Which leads to a tricky question: Why do I do it?

God knows I don't make it easy on myself. I believe in a challenge, which is why spring cleaning is what I like to call "the only time I clean all year." Less concise, more accurate.

For most of the year, I just look around as I'm leaving for the day and think, "If I died today, would I be mortified when people open my apartment?"

In other words, my place has to be so disgusting that I would feel shame from beyond the grave. If there are no creatures with eyeballs living in the apartment and no need for the gag reflex, I'm usually satisfied. So spring cleaning is, like me, kind of a big deal.

I start by dusting the dust off the duster, taking the mothballs out of the mothballs and cleaning up the cleaners. Fully armed, I tackle the household from eye level to bottom.

I even wash the dishes, instead of my usual ritual of draining the water and resoaking repeatedly in hopes that the dishes will dissolve. If anyone ever invents a water-soluble, one-use frying pan, I'll be first in line — every morning.

Tackling the bathroom is also key. Usually there are so many pairs of underwear on the floor it looks like Judgment Day came and God took up only people who were mid-orgy.

Then there's the fridge, which doubles as a Grade 4 science project missing only the Bristol board that says "mould" at the top. The vegetable crisper (total misnomer) is often vegetable soup, and the multiple milk cartons in the door are like a retrospective: "The Best-Before Dates of 2012."

But I still go through with the cleanup. Why? Basic hygiene? Goodness, no.

It's because it feels like a chance at new beginnings. I can wipe the slate clean, dust off my dreams and wash away the memory of that night I woke up on the living-room floor with a half-eaten junior bacon cheeseburger in my pocket. Like a New Year's resolution reprise, spring cleaning is a chance to "start clean."

That way, the carpet won't be dirty when it happens again.

ZOOM

A six-legged robot — take a hike!

ALICK COTTERILL/REX FEATURES

Behold, the largest hexapod robot in the world can walk

Meet Mantis, the six-legged walking machine. The menacing robot claims to be the biggest all-terrain operational hexapod robot in the world.

Designed and built in Winchester, Hampshire, south England, after four years of research and development, it is the brainchild of Matt Denton, founder and chief designer of Micromagic Systems.

The robotic device can be piloted from within the cockpit or remotely using Wi-Fi technology. It's available now for private hire, custom commissions, events and sponsorships. **METRO**

Q and A

Creator inspired by Star Wars movie

MATT DENTON
Founder of Micromagic Systems

What inspired you to make this?

It started at a young age while watching sci-fi films such as Star Wars: The Empire Strikes Back. Seeing those imposing AT-ATs walk across a snowscape got me fascinated with the concept of using legged locomotion on vehicles. This ultimately led me to working in the film industry within animatronics.

I built my first hexapod robot back in 2001, it was about 30 centimetres long. I guess the Mantis was a natural progression. **METRO**

Clickbait

Because your Twitter feed can never have enough sarcasm, here are a couple of 'celeb' parody accounts to follow if you want to spice up your daily intake of hilarity.

@WonkaTweets:
Gene Wilder is back in a condensed, 140-character version of Willy Wonka. He makes fun of the next generation while cracking jokes with gems like, "I bet when cheetahs race and one of them cheats, the other one goes, 'Man, you're such a cheetah!' and they laugh and eat a zebra or whatever."

@DRUNKHULK:
As the name suggests, this Twitter parody account is your favourite Marvel Comics character who drunk tweets in an all-caps, first-person, poor-grammar style. One of his latest: "5.5 TONS OF NUTELLA STOLEN IN GERMANY! SOMETIME IT FEEL LIKE DRUNK HULK NOT LIVING UP TO FULL POTENTIAL!"

Letters

RE: Preschoolers Who Drink Low-Fat Milk More Likely To Be Overweight, published March 25

This is a story of another industry lie like the tobacco and sugar industry.

The dairy industry has promoted low-fat as good for your health, but actually it is good for their bottom line because they can extract more cream to make more products.

The simple science is: All that is left in the milk after the "fat" cream is removed is the sugar (lactose) so when you drink this "healthy" product you are just adding more sugar to an overloaded, Western, sugary diet. The little fat left in the three per cent milk actually works to reduce and slow the sugar uptake, and adds more food value to the milk, which is healthier. One day, hopefully, all these lies will be shown: the sugar poison, the fat-free, high-sugar products.

I don't buy organic, I'm just concerned about the poor Western diet and the lies we are told. **44fourty posted to metronews.ca**

RE: UBC Study Reveals Most People Don't Know A Woman's Eggs Are As Old As She Is, published March 27

This article left me feeling depressed. I'm 34 years old, and not even close to having children, even though I dream of having few.

It's a grim reminder of how quickly life passes, and the pressure we women are under. **Agnieszka Jeglinska posted to metronews.ca**

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU: Send us your comments: calgaryletters@metronews.ca

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SCENE

Tommy Tiernan brings his new show to Calgary Thursday night. HANDOUT

Tommy's take on storytime

Gift of the gab. Irish comedian talks about the art of crafting an entertaining tale

BACKSTAGE PASS
Lisa Wilton
calgary@metronews.ca

Storytelling is in Tommy Tiernan's blood.

"It's genetic," says the 43-year-old Irish comic.

"Storytelling is just the way we behave with each other. We're an anecdotal race."

The kinetic stand-up, who is known for his hilarious, if sometimes controversial, musings on religion, relationships and pop culture, says he finds telling long-form jokes easier than tearing off a string of one-liners. But he's also aware there's a fine art to creating successful comedy anecdotes.

"The craft is not only about giving out information," he says.

"It's about allowing the story to tell itself through you in a way you can't predict. It's almost like a stream of consciousness, but it's not improvised. You know the details of the story and you just gotta let it come out of you in whatever way it wants without dictating it too much.

"The difficulty is trusting it. As it's happening, your head is going, 'That's not going to work.' But it does."

Tiernan says he comes up with ideas for jokes almost every day, but admits much of it doesn't make it to the stage.

"Once I walk up on stage most of the bad ones just disappear," he explains.

"I know before I begin a story if it's going to work or not.

"Most of the time I'm very good at getting rid of the ones that aren't going to work."

Tiernan originally set out to become an actor, but after watching a particularly stellar performance in a stage play one night, he let that dream go.

"I couldn't understand how (the actor) had done it," he recalls.

"I kind of thought, 'Why am I even trying when people like that exist? Why am I even volunteering for the stage?'

"But when I went to a comedy club, I knew I could do that. I didn't know how good I would be.

"But I wasn't concerned. I felt like I belonged on the stage and I knew that it suited me."

If you go...

- **When.** Fans of Tommy Tiernan can see his new show, Stray Sod, presented by Just For Laughs Thursday night at MacEwan Hall.
- **Cost.** Tickets cost between $35.50 and $42.50, and are available at the door, through ticketfly.com or call 1-888-732-1682.
- **Awards.** Tiernan won the Edinburgh Fringe Festival's coveted Perrier Comedy Award in 1998.

When you wish upon a star dreams come true

Winning. Rogers, Cityline and Breakfast Television team up with Disney and WestJet in the biggest contest of its kind

VAWN HIMMELSBACH
scene@metronews.ca

There's winning a trip — and then there's winning a trip with your family to Disney, being treated like a VIP from the moment you set foot in the airport and having a chance to win prizes that money can't buy while hanging out with on-air personalities on live television.

It's the biggest contest of its kind offered by Rogers Media, Cityline and Breakfast Television in partnership with Disney Parks and WestJet Vacations. City gave away a total of 32 vacation packages, including return airfare to Orlando, accommodations at Disney's Magic Kingdom, a $600 US Disney gift card and theme park passes.

The winners will be taking over Disney World in Florida on Apr. 22 and 23 — and viewers will get a chance to share the excitement and even win a trip.

But what makes this contest different is that winners will be given an opportunity to compete, on air, for prizes that money can't buy, said Kevin Forget, producer of Breakfast Television Toronto, adding that you have to watch the shows for details on the prizes.

The party will start from the time they check in at the airport, where they'll receive "teal" carpet treatment from WestJet, said Jordan Schwartz, vice-president of in-house productions with Rogers Media. They'll also get to experience the park before it opens to the general public, spend time with on-air personalities from across Canada and take part in live broadcasts. And, for viewers, there will be plenty of entertainment from Canadian TV hosts and guest experts.

Dreams could still come true for viewers at home, who have a chance to win a prize pack from Disney and WestJet during the live broadcasts.

Quoted

"My children go bananas when they see Disney on TV. Both of my kids are in love with the Disney characters, especially Cars and princesses, so we knew that this would be a perfect trip to win! ... We are hoping for lifelong memories that the kids can look back to years from now." Bryant Van Iderstine, Calgary

Tracy Moore and Brian Gluckstein finding some magic in the Disney Kingdom. HANDOUT

Broadcast details

Cityline will air from the Magic Kingdom on April 23 at 9 a.m. ET on City

- **Dates.** Breakfast Television Toronto will broadcast two shows from the Magic Kingdom on April 22 and 23 from 5:30 to 9 a.m. ET on City
- **Broadcasts.** Breakfast Television in Vancouver, Calgary, Edmonton and Winnipeg will air live segments throughout their regular broadcasts on April 22 and 23 on City

Online extras

Behind the Disney curtain

ELISHA DACEY
Metro Winnipeg

When I told my five-year-old she was going to Disney World, there was stunned silence. Then a gasp. Then a party broke out in our kitchen.

Thanks to the kind folks at City, WestJet and Disney, myself, my husband, Andy, and my Bean are going to Disney World in Orlando for five days next week as part of the City in Disney event. I plan to write about some Disney tips and tricks — stories you'll only be able to find on the Metronews.ca website. It will include exclusive behind-the-scenes looks at what it takes to put a TV show together in Disney.

Elisha Dacey is the managing editor of Metro Winnipeg. Follow her on twitter @elishadacey.

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Miley Cyrus and Liam Hemsworth. PHOTOS: GETTY IMAGES

Billy Ray Cyrus hints Miley's engagement may end in achy, breaky hearts

If how Billy Ray Cyrus went about writing his new memoir, Hillbilly Heart, is any indication, he's not that optimistic that daughter Miley Cyrus and her fiancé, Liam Hemsworth, will make it to the altar.

"I know as I was writing the book I wanted to keep that particular moment as open-ended as possible. I didn't know the answer," Billy Ray tells ABC News.

"They're young, they're kids. The great news is, they're great friends. They're really, really good friends."

As for their chances of seeing their wedding reception? "I don't know, I really don't," he says.

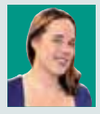
"I play it by ear and I know whatever is meant to be, that's the way it's going to happen."

METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

The Word

Rihanna's Diamonds tour losing its shine



THE WORD
Dorothy Robinson
scene@metronews.ca

What is going on with Rihanna?

Rihanna's Diamonds World Tour, which kicked off March 8th, isn't going off exactly as planned.

The singer has already cancelled three concerts — Baltimore and Boston last month and Houston on Monday. Her promoter Live Nation confirmed only that the cancellations were "as a result of illness" but did not say what was wrong with the star. When she cancelled the Boston show, she tweeted fans that morning, saying: "(Boston) this is the hardest thing for me to deal with! I feel like we've been waiting on this day forever, and I'm hurt that I let you down. … I hate disappointing people that never ever let me down!! I'm so embarrassed about this! Thank you for your prayers and well wishes!"

Her camp is claiming "laryngitis" but the tabloid press is claiming "pregnant." TMZ.com spotted the singer, covered up in a baseball cap and sucking on a lollipop, leaving a medical building on Tuesday. If you checked out the singer's Instagram, you will see she is a connoisseur of the green stuff. So maybe if she laid off the pot? Perhaps that would help this whole "laryngitis" issue. I know it would definitely help this possible "pregnancy" situation.

Macaulay Culkin

Paparazzi leave Culkin a sulkin'

Macaulay Culkin isn't having that great of a stay in London, if his run-ins with the paparazzi are any indication.

The former child star first seemed perturbed by the photographers' presence while checking into his hotel, the Budget Ibis. Tensions boiled over while Culkin was leaving nightclub the Haunt after joining pal Adam Green on stage, according to E! News.

Culkin reportedly launched himself at a paparazzo and began attacking him, telling him to go to hell.

It's unclear what set the actor off.

Twitter

@ABFoundation
I am pretty bad at yoga.

@mindykaling
Back when I resided in the United States I lived in a little Spanish casita w/a fountain. Wonder if the new inhabitants enjoy the gurgle

@justinbieber
Up watching funny YouTube vids. What r some good ones?

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THE DOUBLE DOUBLE EVENT

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5 new ways to wear denim

Jeans are the easiest thing to wear during spring's rainy season of transitional weather. We take styling tips from seven stylish everyday women spotted around the world.

KENYA HUNT
Metro World News

The idea: Day-to-night means dressing down

Styling tip: Speaking of contrast, check out how Rajni Jacques's polished tailoring neatens up the New Yorker's otherwise badass grunge look, showing a new side of day-to-night dressing. Because sometimes, the after-work socializing happens in a dive bar and not a swanky gallery opening.

BOUTIQUE BOYFRIEND BLAZER
$300, TOPSHOP.COM

The idea: Bring those old school high tops back

Styling tip: Lately, when we see a pair of sneakers in a fashion story, it's the neon Nike Free or primary coloured New Balance. But the classic high top (and we're not talking about those trendy Isabel Marant wedge ones) has been overlooked. Londoner Bryona Hayne's sporty look makes a good case for fixing that.

NIKE SNEAKERS
$112, NIKE.COM

The idea: Give the girly girl an edge

Styling tip: Pink, the most saccharine of colours, suddenly gets major bite when paired with boyfriend jeans and a fisherman's sweater. And let us draw your eye to the navy blue nails on Irina Lackicevic from London. Sensing a theme here?

SOPHIA WEBSTER
SLINGBACKS
$395,
NETAPORTER.COM

SOPHIE HULME
TRENCH WITH LEATHER SLEEVES
$805, STYLEBOP.COM

The idea: Take the wide legs out of the '70s

Styling tip: Steer clear of going too literal and disco-y by balancing the retroness of the jeans with a contemporary silhouette on top. Pay close attention to the length of Brit Kimberly Carroll's jeans. You don't want them dragging on the ground.

The idea: Put the ripped bits up top

Styling tip: We expect to see rips and tears on the legs (preferably just above or below the knee.) Give an element of surprise by wearing the distressed bits up top, pairing a ripped knit with a pristine pair of dark blue jeans the way Anouki Areshidze in Milan does here.

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The Kit

Canadian street style

Spotted in: Ottawa

Erika
Student
Age: 22

What she's wearing
Gifted scarf, Costa Blanca coat, Trust Fund jeans, Coach bag, Old Navy booties.

Her inspiration
"Ottawa inspires my style! I study entrepreneurship and I am inspired by small businesses. And I also love thrifting!"

THE KIT PHOTOBLOGGER:
KATARINA KURUC, LOVEK.ORG

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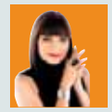

JEANNE SPACE
Jeanne Beker
life@metronews.ca

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With @Viktor_and_Rolf @TheHudsonsBayCo Check out my V+R bag! A custom Gina Alexander creation, circa 2000.

With the talented @Derrick4Draf Derrick Rutledge, Oprah's make-up artist. Just did an inspiring intvw for @theloopca

Meeting the coolest people @AdditionElle today! Here's @haileyisgunnin #pinkforthewin She's on @MTVCreeps

Trends Report

Glam star picks permeate prom

Red carpet ready.
Teens seeking their own time in the spotlight look to celebs for inspiration

Jennifer Lawrence shows her fans how to get down in a gown.
JOHN SHEARER/ INVISION/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

You might as well roll out the red carpet in front of the school gymnasium or hotel ballroom and line it with parental paparazzi. Prom season provides many girls a chance to have their moment to pose.

It's likely that this year's parade of fashions will include a few starlet look-alikes. And why not?

Today's young celebrities span many styles. There's Jennifer Lawrence, who has come to awards shows dressed both sporty and sleek, and like a princess; Taylor Swift, who moves seamlessly from vintage to ethereal; and sometimes funky, sometimes artsy Chloe Moretz.

There are also Rihanna and Selena Gomez, notes Gina Kelly, fashion director at Seventeen. "You've got Selena Gomez, who's a little sweeter, and Rihanna, who's edgier. Within that range, you've got a lot of options."

Coming just off the Hollywood awards season, all the options are fresh in girls' minds, she says, and they've gotten ideas on how to put a whole package together. Lawrence, for example, wore a bona fide ball gown — and there are girls who want that — but her delicate jewelry and loose updo added youthfulness, Kelly observes.

Georgina Chapman, designer of red-carpet favourite Marchesa, is now offering a significantly less expensive version of her party looks at JCPenney under the Pearl label.

For even her older teen stepdaughter, Chapman says she felt like Marchesa's dramatic signature might have been a little too much. "You want to look vibrant. You've got that young glow, work with that!"

She hopes Pearl adds a little "more tongue in cheek" than Marchesa, with the same level of attention to details, and you'll have the embellishment and ruffles.

Mandi Line, costume designer for TV's Pretty Little Liars, encourages girls to try on as many prom dresses as possible. Then, she says, "go with your gut or you won't be happy at the dance."

"What do you want to show off? Your legs, your arms? Then look at your favourite star. You might not be like them, you might not look like them. But it's a good start for ideas," Line says.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

- **Form-flattering peplum can look great on any figure, and it's been showing up everywhere from catwalks to red carpets this season.** Head online to Trends Report for tips on how to style this fashion trend: metronews.ca/voices/trends-report

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Invite the sea into your home

It's not often that I subscribe to a heavily themed decorating style. Although industrial-chic and hotel-style have faired well, it's time to soften up the looks and introduce a style dedicated to water and sand. Sea-side living-inspired-decor themes are popping up, and this nautical theme might jump start us into summer.

DESIGN CENTRE
Karl Lohnes
home@metronews.ca

Rope Knot Table Lamp Base, $190

Nautical manila rope is tightly twisted and knotted to create a textured lamp base for a seaside look. potterybarn.com.

Towels $11, Monograms $7

Handwoven in pure cotton, the Herringbone hand towels make a personalized statement when monogrammed. westelm.com.

Yacht Club Cushion, $20

Sail away to France with blue and white accent pillows. simons.ca.

Woven Wicker Drum Lamp Shade, $63

The textured weave of natural wicker adds an instant summertime look to any lamp base. potterybarn.com.

Sea Urchin Candle, $16

The beauty of the sea urchin surfaces in this detailed candle crafted of natural wax rubbed with white highlights. crateandbarrel.com.

Lauren by Ralph Lauren picture frame, $60

Soft sheen and sea colours from mother of pearl is trimmed with nickel-plated iron. thebay.com.

Out with the old, in with the newly restored

DIY ideas. Clean, sand, paint, stain — restore an old piece into a new gem for your home

Found an antique? Use a chemical stripper to take off the old finish. ISTOCK IMAGES

If one man's junk is another man's treasure, both those men are probably at the flea market, where beautiful pieces of decor can be hiding beneath chipped wood and old paint.

Robert Kulp and Mike Whiteside of Salvage Dawgs offer some tips on turning junk into treasure through restoration.

Research and inspect

Check for unusual markings and labels to determine the origin and worth of the piece.

If you suspect it may be an antique, take it to a professional before you work on it. If you start to restore an antique you will ultimately void the piece of any vintage worth.

Safety first

A safety checklist before you start is a key component when doing DIY projects.

When restoring furniture, be sure to have goggles to protect your eyes from wood or metal scraps, wear long sleeves, wear a mask when working with chemicals and be sure to work in a well ventilated area.

Clean before you start

Once you've determined your plan for the piece it must be thoroughly cleaned before you begin sanding, painting or staining.

You will need to buff it with a vegetable oil-based soap and warm water. Use a small soft bristle tooth brush if the piece is highly detailed.

Dirt and grime build up over the years and it will need to be removed for a professional look.

Repair

If parts are broken you will need to repair them or replace them altogether.

Search antique stores because you may get lucky and find a matching chair leg or drawer knob; but chances are you will have to get replacements custom made. Check for loose screws to simply tighten them, or take them out and replace them if they're rusted. Use wood glue for any small breaks and wood putty for small cracks.

Refinish/repaint

You will need to use both chemical strippers and sanding to take off the old finish. If you are painting the piece, you will need to slightly sand down any ridges.

Before you stain or paint the item, give it another buff to get rid of dust in order to end up with a professional looking finish.

SALVAGE DAWGS PREMIERES TUESDAY, MAY 7 AT 9 P.M. ET/PT ON DIY NETWORK CANADA DURING A MONTH-LONG FREE PREVIEW ON THE NETWORK

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Plants can bring your room to life

Bring the spring in. From ferns and herbs to potted trees, professional designers help you choose what's best for your space

The first buds of spring have been slow to arrive, but even if your garden has yet to grow, you can add a sense of spring to your home by decorating with lush plants and potted trees.

Today, "designer spaces pretty much always include some element of life," says interior designer Brian Patrick Flynn. "While that can be anything from coral to tortoise shells, pressed leaves or even a tiny bowl with a goldfish, the most common way to add life is with potted plants and trees."

Going green

"The most common way to add life is with potted plants and trees."

Brian Patrick Flynn, interior designer, founder of decordemon.com

We've asked Flynn, California-based interior designer Molly Luetkemeyer and Betsy Burnham of Burnham Design in L.A. for advice on choosing the right plants and keeping them blooming.

Where to start?

You can choose plants based on where you'd like to keep them, or select a plant you love and ask for advice on where to place it. And if you want plants that need little attention, don't be shy about saying so.

"I'm only interested in plants and trees that are low-maintenance," Flynn says. "Give me something that requires daily care ... and it's most likely to go from green to brown or black in less than 72 hours."

Fabulous ferns

All three designers like ferns, such as the maidenhair. "They're fresh," says Luetkemeyer, "and they're that pale green that's the beginning green of spring."

If you want something bolder, Flynn suggests the staghorn fern. Just remember that all ferns do best in shade rather than direct sunlight.

Flowering plants

"I love plants that flower in the spring," says Luetkemeyer, who recommends daffodils, narcissus and hyacinth. She also loves gardenia plants for their fragrance and shiny leaves. But they do require a bit of effort.

"Any plant that's a woody plant ... is going to be a little bit trickier," she says. Consider researching online to learn how much water and light your plant will need.

Potted trees

"A statement tree," says Burnham, "adds height to your room, and plays with the light at a window."

Flynn also suggests fig trees: "Fiddle leaf fig trees are, hands down, my favourite," he says. "Since these grow straight upwards, they're perfect for corners or flanking a fireplace or focal point without growing out and over it."

Countertop herbs

"This might be a great time to put some herbs in your kitchen," Luetkemeyer says.

Many stores sell herb plants that are already blooming in small pots. You can re-pot them in attractive containers and cluster them on a countertop.

Perfect potting

"What you plant something it makes just as much of a statement as the tree or plant itself," says Burnham.

Luetkemeyer agrees that it's worth taking time to choose the right pots: "You can take the same plant and pot it four different ways and it creates four different vibes," she says.

Whatever you choose, Flynn is sure you'll be happier with greenery in your home.

"Whether you've got all the time in the world to care for something or just want to be able to squirt a water bottle on your way out the door," he says, "there's definitely something out there for you."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Designer Brian Patrick Flynn incorporated life into this home office with a pair of fiddle leaf ficus trees and a large fern.

BRIAN PATRICK FLYNN/HGTVREMODELS.COM/SARAH DORIO/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Putting nature's critters to work for you

An underappreciated workforce. Crawly creatures can help you keep your garden healthy — and they work cheap

Looking for some help in the garden? Many of nature's most useful critters lie literally at our feet, underappreciated and ignored, despite their ability to eliminate insects, condition soil and pollinate plants.

Turtles, moths, moles, dragonflies, snakes, toads and spiders are among the many wild things that can help maintain a landscape. The payback is minimal — food, water, shelter and easing off on harsh lawn and garden chemicals.

"I believe in teamwork, using all the creatures that live in your garden," says Sharon Lovejoy, author of Trowel and Error. "Start from the ground up with night crawlers as part of your workforce."

Add to the earthworms already in your plant beds with commercially available red worms.

"Build a worm bin or a place where they can't get out," Lovejoy says. "Use all of your leftovers — your kitchen compost. Worms can process up to six pounds of garbage in a week."

Lovejoy adds: "Grow an assortment of native plants, which will draw a great many bird species. Add plant hosts as food for butterfly and moth larvae."

That list would include milkweed (for monarch butterflies), borage (for green lacewings), sunflowers (for ladybugs) and yarrow (for hoverflies). Many insects in the larval stage are voracious predators. Juvenile green lacewings are named "aphid lions" because of their appetite for the sap-sucking pests.

"I would certainly place spiders near the top of underappreciated life in the garden," says Whitney Cranshaw, an extension entomologist with Colorado State University.

Little labourers

"I believe in teamwork, using all the creatures that live in your garden."
Sharon Lovejoy, author of Trowel and Error

"Although sometimes I think it is less that they are not appreciated, but rather people don't want to think of them."

Spiders are credited for as much as 80 per cent of all predator control in the garden. Jumping spiders, wolf spiders, lynx spiders and crab spiders are the standouts, Cranshaw says.

Most predatory insects aren't selective, though, feeding on anything that comes within reach. "Praying mantises are generalists," says James Dill, a pest management specialist with the University of Maine.

"So are many spiders. They're very efficient, but don't discriminate in what they eat. They'd just as soon grab a honeybee if it happens by."

Maintain a healthy garden with ample spacing if you hope to attract beneficial insects. "Spacing allows you to observe things better if you're walking around, looking for trouble," Dill says. "It also reduces the odds for (plant) disease."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Spiders may land on the creepy-crawly list for many, but they account for as much as 80 per cent of all the predator control in home gardens.
DEAN FOSDICK/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Natural Gardeners

- **Toads.** "Harmful insects make up 62 per cent of a toad's daily food supply," says Lovejoy
- **Dragonflies.** These insects can capture more than 400 mosquitoes a day
- **Moles.** "They eat their body weight in insects, slugs and grubs while aerating the soil," Lovejoy says
- **Bats.** These nocturnal aerialists pollinate flowers, spread seeds and devour upwards of 600 mosquitoes an hour.
- **Snakes.** "Most snakes ... are harmless helpers, and eat rodents and insect pests," Lovejoy says

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TIME TO BRIGHTEN YOUR HOME

Infuse your home with vibrant colours, fresh floral touches and breezy fabrics this spring. You don't have to spend a lot of money to do it — simply update pieces you already own to create a brand new look for the season, like this:

LIGHTEN UP

Do you have velvet drapes or a sofa covered in heavy fabric? Start by removing the drapes and replace them with airy sheets. Slipcover the sofa and other furniture with paler tones. Remember that sheer curtains, bedskirts, tablecloths and pillows all say "spring" louder than any other element. Look for designs that complement your lifestyle and interiors.

RETHINK THE RUGS

Spring is a good time to have heavy rugs cleaned or repaired. Replace cosy area rugs with inexpensive cotton alternatives in vibrant, pastel colours.

DE-CLUTTER NOW

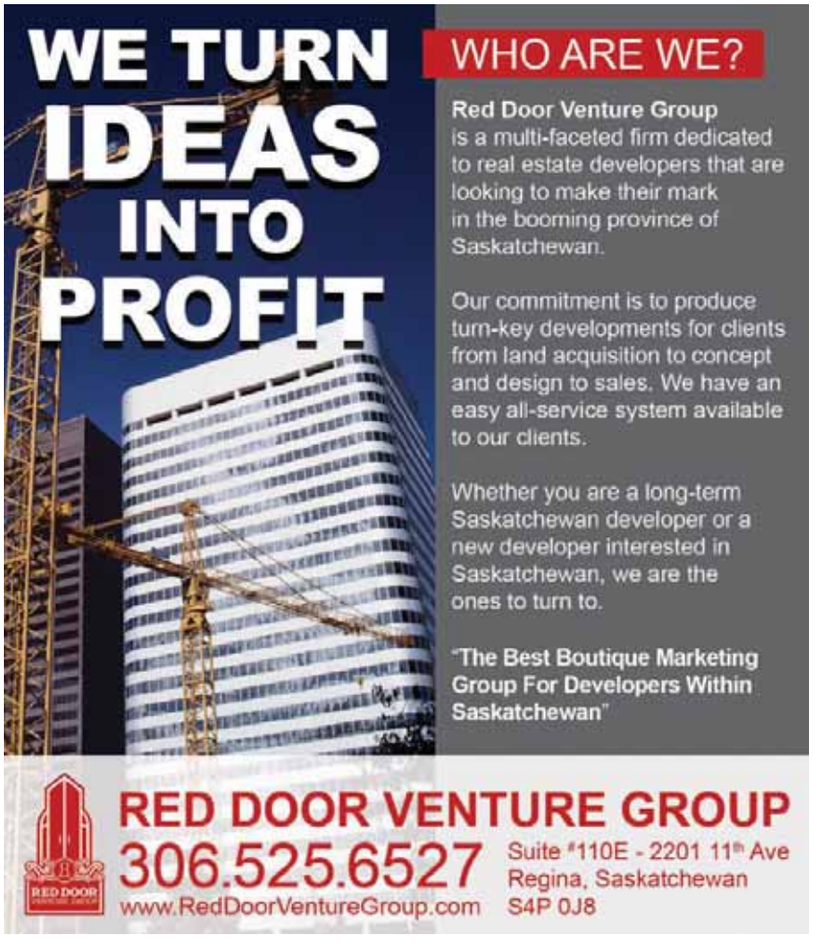
Look for organizing solutions. Any spot that is overcrowded can drain your energy and fill your life with clutter. Donate clothes, books or toys to charity. You can also auction off any unwanted items online and donate a portion of the proceeds to a non-profit organization.

NEWS CANADA PHOTOS

ACCESSORIZE

Spring is all about rebirth, making it a wonderful time to reboot your home décor. Bring out your floral china, fresh plants, flowering pots or plant elegant orchids in your own backyard. With the change in seasons, these lively touches can breathe new life into your home.

– News Canada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"Red Door Venture Group is a multi-faceted marketing firm dedicated to real estate developers that are looking to make their mark in the booming province of Saskatchewan," says Jaimey Midtdal, spokesperson for Red Door Venture Group.

"At Red Door Venture Group we have the tools and people needed to take a bare land concept through the entire process, delivering a turn-key development. We turn ideas into profit."

CONTRIBUTED

The Red Door Venture Group takes great pride in the services it provides to its customers and treats each customer with respect by tailoring each interaction to meet their needs.

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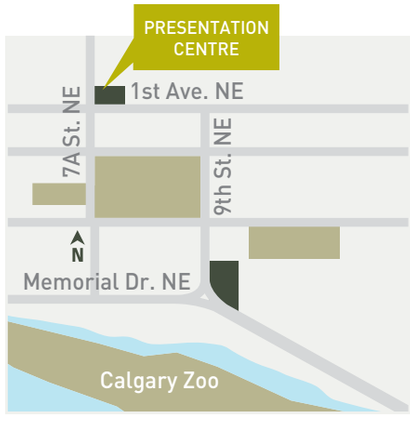

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The developer reserves the right to make changes to the information contained herein without notice.

APEX cityhomes

RENNIE MARKETING SYSTEMS

PARK YOURSELF IN NEW BRIGHTON

For pet owners, especially those with dogs, living in an area with access to parks and open spaces is usually quite high up on the priority list when shopping for a new home.

For Brad Morin and his fiancé, New Brighton was the perfect community for them and their furry friend to call home.

"There are a lot of parks, so that was a big plus for us," Morin says.

As a first-time homebuyer and looking to start a family with his fiancé, Morin decided that New Brighton was the perfect place to start this new phase of his life. And it all fit into his budget.

"The prices are great for what you get," Morin says. "The prices are one of the best in the city and in one of the nicest communities."

Morin and his fiancé only recently took possession of their brand new single-family Shane Home, but couldn't be happier.

"Everything we wanted was included in the standard price and we are very happy with the quality of our new home," Morin says. "Shane Homes were great to work with as well."

New Brighton also provides Morin with easy access to all the major routes since he works in construction and is often on the road and out of town.

But when he is in town, he enjoys having his friends nearby and the amenities just down the road from his new home on 130th Avenue.

"All the restaurants, banks and shopping are just right there," Morin says.

Now that he has his great new home with his fiancé and his dog, Morin is looking for a little more time in his work schedule to explore the community of New Brighton and take advantage of the numerous walking trails and the 6,500-square-foot New Brighton Club.

For more on New Brighton and the homes available, visit livenewbrighton.ca.

MORE PROJECTS

New Brighton's townhome project from "Mint" by Jayman, features two- and three-bedroom townhomes with garage starting in the $270,000s.

The move-up showhome parade by Shane, Cedarglen, and Morrison opened earlier in the year and features homes with double-attached garages, starting in the $400,000s.

CONTRIBUTED

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Brookfield Residential
The Best Places to Call Home

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

STANDING OUT FROM THE REST

MARK IS ORIGINAL AND UNIQUE

A recent condo boom in Calgary's core has sparked interest in downtown living. But amid all the development, there is one highrise that stands out from all the rest.

Located in the heart of the Beltline's highly sought after Design District, MARK is unparalleled in both its location and composition.

"From inception, our vision for MARK has been that we want to be different than other residential highrise towers that currently exist in downtown Calgary," says Parham Mahboubi, vice-president of marketing and new developments for Qualex-Landmark.

Its home on the corner of 10th Avenue and 8th Street SW is within walking distance to all the amenities necessary to support a vibrant lifestyle. Shopping, entertainment, restaurants, parks, transit, a university, and employment — it's all in the neighbourhood.

Inside, as residents of MARK's 274 suites walk through the dramatic three-storey lobby, they are greeted by a large-scale art piece designed by one of Canada's most respected and internationally acclaimed visual artists, author and designer, Douglas Coupland.

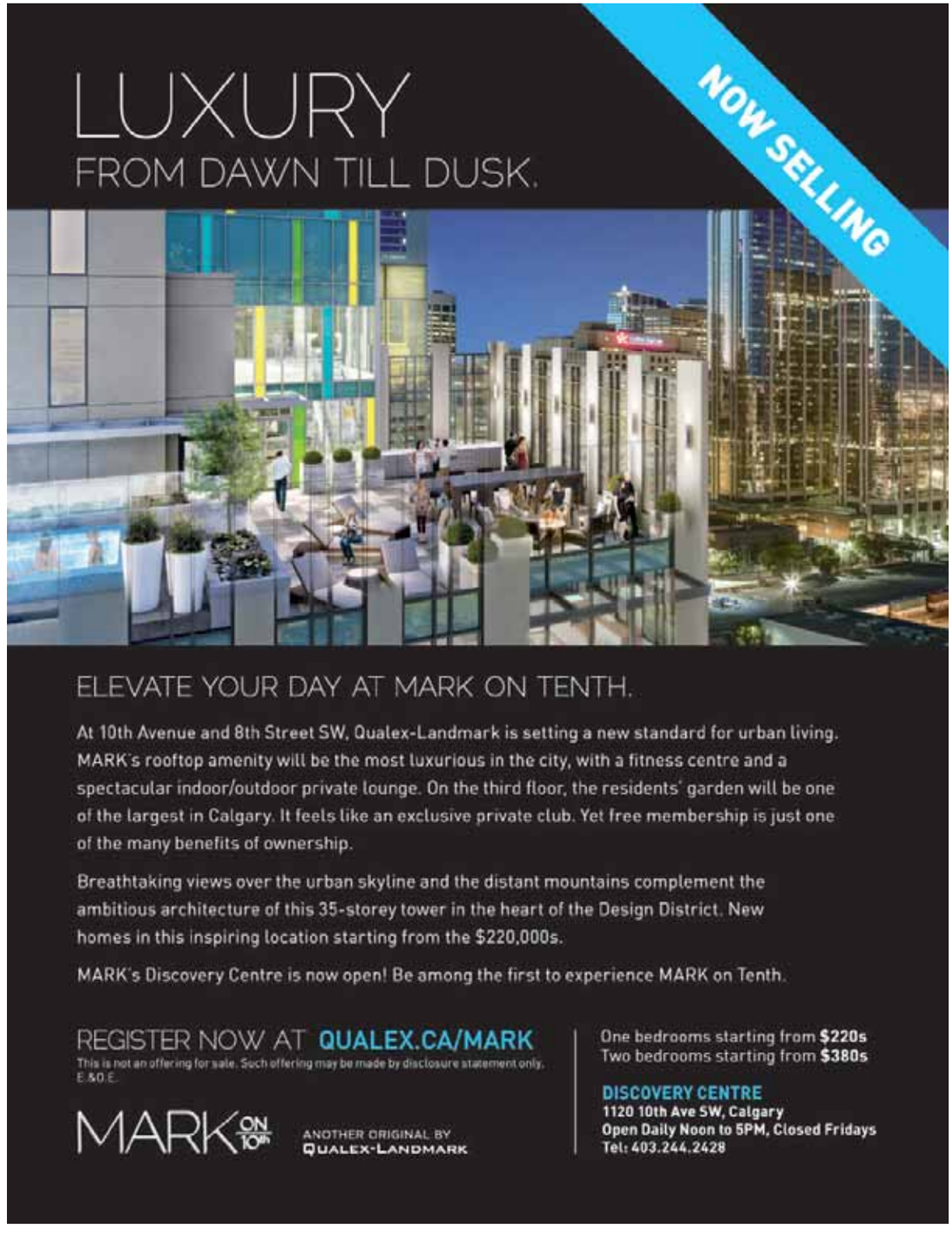
Upstairs, energy-efficient window walls offer residents unmatched views of the Calgary cityscape and distant mountains, while upscale cabinetry and top-quality appliances ensure luxury comes standard in every suite.

Meanwhile, wide plank wood laminate flooring in the living and dining areas, a large soaker tub in the bathroom and vibrant colour palates throughout make these suites a comfortable, welcoming space to call home.

And with nine, highly functional floor plans ranging in size from 452 to 980 square feet, buyers have a variety of styles from which to choose.

"MARK is expected to make a significant contribution to the Design District neighbourhood by adding an outstanding development that is in many ways itself an art form, original and unique," says Roger Navabi, president of Qualex-Landmark.

Remaining one bedrooms start in the $220,000s, and remaining two bedrooms start in the $370,000s, making MARK not only a luxurious choice, but an affordable one. For more, or to speak with a sales representative, visit qualex.ca/mark.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ELEVATE YOUR DAY AT MARK ON TENTH.
At 10th Avenue and 8th Street SW, Qualex-Landmark is setting a new standard for urban living. MARK's rooftop amenity will be the most luxurious in the city, with a fitness centre and a spectacular indoor/outdoor private lounge. On the third floor, the residents' garden will be one of the largest in Calgary. It feels like an exclusive private club. Yet free membership is just one of the many benefits of ownership.
Breathtaking views over the urban skyline and the distant mountains complement the ambitious architecture of this 35-storey tower in the heart of the Design District. New homes in this inspiring location starting from the $220,000s.
MARK's Discovery Centre is now open! Be among the first to experience MARK on Tenth.
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Get the party started with Thai Pork Skewers

This recipe makes 26 pieces. RYAN SZULC/CONTRIBUTED

Ingredients

- 1 pork tenderloin, trimmed (about 1 lb/450 g)

Marinade

- 2 tbsp packed brown sugar
- 2 tbsp chopped fresh cilantro or parsley
- 2 tbsp lime juice
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 tbsp grated fresh ginger
- 1 tbsp soy sauce
- 1 tsp Thai red curry paste

Peanut sauce

- 1/3 cup natural peanut butter
- 1/3 cup coconut milk
- 2 tbsp lime juice
- 1 tbsp soy sauce
- 1 tsp packed brown sugar
- 1/2 tsp hot pepper sauce

"This curry-scented marinade uses only a bit of Thai red curry paste, but an opened jar will keep in the fridge for up to one year," write the editors of Canadian Living in The Appetizer Collection. "Try the luscious peanut sauce on grilled chicken as well."

1. Peanut sauce: In food processor, blend together peanut butter, coconut milk, lime juice, soy sauce, brown sugar and hot pepper sauce until smooth. Pour into bowl; cover and set aside. Cut pork into 26 8-by-1-by-5mm strips.

2. Marinade: In large bowl, whisk together brown sugar, cilantro, lime juice, garlic, ginger, soy sauce and curry paste; add pork, tossing to coat. Cover and refrigerate for 4 hours. (Make-ahead: Refrigerate peanut sauce and pork separately for up to 24 hours. Bring sauce to room temperature, thinning with water, if desired.)

3. Thread pork onto small metal or soaked wooden skewers; place on broiler pan or foil-lined rimmed baking sheet. Broil, 15 cm from heat and turning once, until lightly browned and no longer pink inside, about 6 minutes. Serve with peanut sauce for dipping.

RECIPE EXCERPTED FROM CANADIAN LIVING THE APPETIZER COLLECTION

Cookbook of the Week

Hosting dinner doesn't have to be stressful

Take the stress out of hosting a party with The Appetizer Collection from the experts in The Canadian Living Test Kitchen.

Chapters include dips and spreads, hot appetizers, savoury pastries, tiny sandwiches, cold appetizers, snack mixes and drinks. To make entertaining easy, helpful tips on party planning are also tucked into each chapter. Meanwhile, handy guides help you figure out how much food to make, how many drinks to provide and efficient ways to prep.

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Appetizer. Feta Spinach Strudel Bites

Ingredients

- 9 sheets phyllo pastry
- 1/2 cup butter, melted

Filling

- 1 tbsp vegetable oil
- 1 onion, finely chopped
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 pkg (10 oz/300 g) frozen spinach, thawed
- 1 cup grated Romano cheese
- 1 cup crumbled feta cheese
- 1 egg, lightly beaten
- 1/4 cup diced, drained, jarred roasted red pepper
- 3 tbsp chopped fresh dill (or 2 tsp dried dillweed)
- 1/2 tsp pepper
- Pinch nutmeg

1. Filling: In skillet, heat oil over medium heat; fry onion and garlic, stirring often, until softened, about 5 minutes. Scrape into bowl; let cool. Squeeze moisture from spinach; chop finely and add to bowl along with Romano and feta cheeses, egg, roasted red pepper, dill, pepper and nutmeg. Stir to combine.

2. Place 1 sheet of the phyllo on work surface, covering remainder with damp towel to prevent drying out. Brush lightly with some of the butter. Top with 2 more phyllo sheets, brushing each with some of the remaining butter.

3. Leaving a 2.5 cm border on each end, spoon about 1 cup of the spinach mixture along 1 long side; fold ends over filling. Roll up to form log. Place, seam side down, on baking sheet. With sharp knife, score top through phyllo to make 12 servings. Repeat with remaining phyllo and filling and some of the remaining butter.

4. Brush with remaining butter. Bake in 400 F (200 C) oven until golden, about 25 minutes. With serrated knife, slice along score marks.

RECIPE EXCERPTED FROM CANADIAN LIVING THE APPETIZER COLLECTION

CFL

Former NFL QB signs with Ticats

Former NFL quarterback Brian Brohm is continuing his pro career in the CFL.

The Hamilton Tiger-Cats announced Wednesday that Brohm has agreed to terms with the team. He was on the field for the start of the club's mini-camp.

Brohm, 27, was taken in the second round, 56th overall, by the Green Bay Packers in the 2008 NFL draft out of Louisville.

Buffalo signed Brohm off of Green Bay's practice roster in 2009. The native of Louisville, Ky., appeared in three games over two seasons with the Bills, completing 27 of 52 passes for 252 yards with five interceptions and no TDs.

Brohm spent parts of the 2011 and 2012 seasons with the Las Vegas Locomotives of the United Football League.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Hockey

Lindy Ruff back behind bench with Team Canada

The last man to coach Canada to a medal at the men's world hockey championship is back behind the bench.

Hockey Canada has named Lindy Ruff the country's head coach for the 2013 men's world hockey championship May 3 to 19 in Stockholm and Helsinki.

Ruff coached Canada to a silver medal at the 2009 world championship. Canada lost 2-1 to Russia in the final in Berne, Switzerland, and hasn't finished in the top three since then.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Begin-ning of the end for Red Wings

NHL. Calgary winger makes Detroit goalie pay for a pair of gaffes

Flames goaltender Miikka Kiprusoff manages to keep the puck out of the net despite being barrelled over by teammate Dennis Wideman and Red Wing Damien Brunner at the Saddledome on Wednesday night. DEREK LEUNG/GETTY IMAGES

Steve Begin scored a pair of strange goals in the third period to lead the Calgary Flames to a 3-2 win over the Detroit Red Wings on Wednesday.

Begin took advantage of a pair of blunders by Detroit goalie Jimmy Howard to score his third and fourth goals of the season.

Lee Stempniak also scored for the Flames (17-22-4), who won all three games they played against the Red Wings this season.

Gustav Nyquist and Johan Franzen scored for the Red Wings (20-16-7), who had gone 2-1-2 in their previous five games.

Miikka Kiprusoff stopped 36 of 38 shots he faced in the Calgary net to record his first win since making 36 saves in a 3-2 win at home against St. Louis on March 24. Joey MacDonald had started the previous three games in net for the Flames.

Howard, who the Red Wings signed to a $31.8-million US, six-year contract on Tuesday, made 14 saves in a losing cause.

Early in the third period, Howard played the puck behind his net and attempted to pass it off to defenceman Jonathan Ericsson. Begin noticed that the puck instead got tied up in Howard's feet and he alertly poked it off the Detroit goalie's right skate and into the net.

Later in the final frame, with Calgary defenceman Dennis Wideman in the penalty box for cross-checking, Howard mishandled the puck while again trying to play it behind his net.

Begin was once again the beneficiary as he picked up the loose puck and deposited it into the empty net to give Calgary a 3-1 lead.

Franzen pulled the Wings to within a goal with an unlikely goal of his own at 17:18 of the third. Franzen backhanded the puck into the Calgary zone from centre ice and it took an odd bounce right through Kiprusoff's legs. THE CANADIAN PRESS

On Wednesday

3	2
Flames	Red Wings

4 SPORTS

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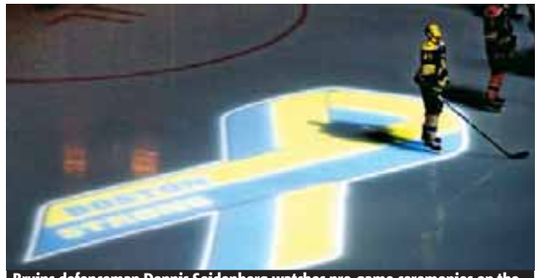
Bruins make emotional return to Boston ice

NHL. Fans mourn and then cheer as Bruins return to action



Bruins defenceman Dennis Seidenberg watches pre-game ceremonies on the ice, illuminated in blue and yellow, the colours of the Boston Athletic Association, on Wednesday at TD Garden. The Bruins and Sabres also wore Boston Strong decals on their shirts. JIM ROGASH/GETTY IMAGES

Emerging from a moment of silence with a deafening cheer, fans at Wednesday night's Bruins game paid tribute to the victims of this week's Boston Marathon bombing with a stirring national anthem and a thunderous chant of "U.S.A.!"

The sold-out crowd at the first major sporting event in the city since Monday's attack lined up for metal-detecting wands and random car inspections to get into the TD Garden. Once inside, they watched a sombre video with scenes from the race, ending with the words, "We are Boston, We are Strong."

The players on the ice for the opening faceoff banged their sticks in the traditional salute, drifting back off the blue-lines so that they, too, could see the video. The Boston Fire Department Honor Guard brought out the U.S. flag to honour the first responders who rushed to the aid of the three killed and more than 170 injured by the twin bombs at the marathon finish line.

It was an emotional return to normal life for the city, which has been dazed by the attacks on one of its signature and most beloved events. Monday's scheduled Bruins game against Ottawa was rescheduled, and Tuesday night's Celtics game was cancelled outright.

But the Bruins said they were determined to help the city move on.

"You're trying to live your life in peace, and there's people trying to disrupt that," coach Claude Julien said on Wednesday before the Bruins' 3-2 shootout loss to the Buffalo Sabres. "The people trying to live their life in peace are going to stick together."

Bruins owner Jeremy Jacobs pledged $100,000 to the One Fund Boston, the charity established to help families affected by the bombing; the Garden, the NHL and the players association pledged $50,000 each.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Quoted

"We love the city. We want to help in any way we can — if we can give them 10 minutes of joy, or 20 hours of joy — anything we can do."

Chris Kelly, Bruins forward

Raptors wrap up with tribute

The Toronto Raptors and Boston Celtics observe a moment of silence for the victims of the Boston Marathon bombing on Wednesday. The Raptors won their season finale 114-90.

FRANK GUNN/THE CANADIAN PRESS

MLB

White Sox rough up Blue Jays' Happ

Catcher Tyler Flowers hit a three-run home run and Jose Quintana pitched 6 2/3 innings to earn his first win of the season as the Chicago White Sox defeated the Toronto Blue Jays 7-0 on Wednesday.

Alex Rios also homered as Quintana (1-0) held the Blue Jays to five hits and two walks while striking out seven before a crowd of 15,684 at Rogers Centre. Toronto left-hander J.A. Happ (2-1) allowed six hits, including two home runs, and five runs in 5 2/3 innings to take his first loss of the season. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Jays starter J.A. Happ delivers on Wednesday THE CANADIAN PRESS

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NBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
z-Miami	66	16	.805	—
y-New York	54	28	.659	12
y-Indiana	49	31	.613	16
x-Brooklyn	49	33	.598	17
x-Chicago	45	37	.549	21
x-Atlanta	44	38	.537	22
x-Boston	41	40	.506	24½
x-Milwaukee	38	44	.463	28
Toronto	34	48	.415	32
Philadelphia	33	48	.407	32½
Detroit	29	53	.354	37
Washington	29	53	.354	37
Cleveland	24	58	.293	42
Charlotte	21	61	.256	45
Orlando	20	62	.244	46

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
z-Oklahoma City	60	22	.732	—
y-San Antonio	58	24	.707	2
x-Denver	57	25	.695	3
y-L.A. Clippers	55	26	.679	4½
x-Memphis	56	26	.683	4
x-Golden State	46	35	.568	13½
x-Houston	45	36	.556	14½
x-L.A. Lakers	44	37	.543	15½
Utah	43	39	.524	17
Dallas	41	41	.500	19
Portland	33	48	.407	26½
Minnesota	31	51	.378	29
Sacramento	28	53	.346	31½
New Orleans	27	55	.329	33
Phoenix	25	57	.305	35

x — clinched playoff berth; y — clinched division; z — clinched conference.

Wednesday's results

Milwaukee 95 Oklahoma City 89
New York 98 Atlanta 92
Brooklyn 103 Detroit 99
Chicago 95 Washington 92
Philadelphia at Indiana, 8 p.m.
Charlotte 105 Cleveland 98
Denver 118 Phoenix 98
Memphis 86 Utah 70
Minnesota 108 San Antonio 95
Toronto 114 Boston 90
Miami 105 Orlando 93
Dallas 99 New Orleans 87
Golden State at Portland
Houston at L.A. Lakers
L.A. Clippers at Sacramento

End of Regular Season

NHL

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	GP	W	L	OTL	SL	GF	GA	Pt
y-Pittsburgh	43	33	10	0	0	147	106	66
dx-Boston	42	26	11	2	3	118	94	57
d-Washington	43	24	17	2	0	134	119	50
x-Montreal	43	26	12	3	2	135	113	57
Toronto	43	24	14	0	5	131	118	53
Ottawa	42	22	14	2	4	104	91	50
NY Islanders	43	22	16	4	1	124	124	49
NY Rangers	42	22	16	0	4	104	98	48
Winnipeg	43	22	19	0	2	113	126	46
Buffalo	44	19	19	2	4	114	130	44
New Jersey	42	15	17	3	7	96	115	40
Philadelphia	43	18	22	1	2	117	133	39
Tampa Bay	43	17	22	1	3	136	135	38
Carolina	42	17	23	1	1	109	134	36
Florida	42	13	23	5	1	101	147	32

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	GP	W	L	OTL	SL	GF	GA	Pt
y-Chicago	42	33	5	0	4	139	87	70
dx-Anaheim	42	27	10	2	3	125	105	59
d-Vancouver	43	24	12	1	6	118	104	55
Los Angeles	43	24	14	1	4	122	107	53
San Jose	43	23	13	3	4	109	104	53
Minnesota	43	24	16	1	2	114	109	51
St. Louis	42	24	16	1	1	112	105	50
Detroit	43	20	16	3	4	108	110	47
Columbus	43	20	16	3	4	106	110	47
Dallas	42	21	18	2	1	118	126	45
Phoenix	42	18	17	3	4	110	114	43
Edmonton	42	16	19	4	3	106	120	39
Calgary	43	17	22	1	3	116	147	38
Nashville	44	15	21	2	6	100	123	38
Colorado	43	14	22	5	2	103	135	35

x — clinched playoff berth; y — clinched division.

Wednesday's results

Buffalo 3 Boston 2 (SO)
Pittsburgh 6 Montreal 4
Calgary 3 Detroit 2
Columbus at Anaheim

Thursday's games

All Times Eastern

Florida at N.Y. Rangers, 7 p.m.
N.Y. Islanders at Toronto, 7 p.m.
Tampa Bay at Montreal, 7:30 p.m.
Washington at Ottawa, 7:30 p.m.
New Jersey at Philadelphia, 7:30 p.m.
Phoenix at St. Louis, 8 p.m.
Carolina at Winnipeg, 8 p.m.
Vancouver at Dallas, 8:30 p.m.
Columbus at Los Angeles, 10:30 p.m.
Minnesota at San Jose, 10:30 p.m.

MLB

AMERICAN LEAGUE

EAST DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	10	4	.714	—
New York	8	5	.615	1½
Baltimore	7	7	.500	3
Toronto	6	9	.400	4½
Tampa Bay	5	9	.357	5

CENTRAL DIVISION

Detroit	8	5	.615	—
Kansas City	8	6	.571	½
Chicago	7	8	.467	2
Minnesota	6	7	.462	2
Cleveland	5	8	.385	3

WEST DIVISION

Oakland	12	4	.750	—
Texas	9	5	.643	2
Seattle	6	9	.400	5½
Los Angeles	4	10	.286	7
Houston	4	11	.267	7½

Wednesday's results

Boston 6 Cleveland 3
Chicago White Sox 7 Toronto 0
N.Y. Yankees 4 Arizona 3
Oakland 7 Houston 5
Tampa Bay 6 Baltimore 2
L.A. Angels at Minnesota (ppd., rain)
Detroit at Seattle

Thursday's games — All Times Eastern

Detroit (Verlander 2-1) at Seattle (Iwakuma 2-0), 3:40 p.m.
Arizona (Corbin 2-0) at N.Y. Yankees (Hughes 0-2), 7:05 p.m.
Boston (Lester 2-0) at Cleveland (McAllister 1-1), 7:05 p.m.
Tampa Bay (Price 0-1) at Baltimore (Gonzalez 1-1), 7:05 p.m.
Chicago White Sox (Sale 1-1) at Toronto (Dickey 1-2), 7:07 p.m.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

Wednesday's results

Cincinnati 1 Philadelphia 0 (comp. of susp. gm)
Cincinnati 11 Philadelphia 2
Kansas City 1 Atlanta 0
Miami 8 Washington 2
Milwaukee 4 San Francisco 3
Pittsburgh 5 St. Louis 0
N.Y. Mets at Colorado (ppd., snow)
Texas at Chicago Cubs (ppd., rain)
San Diego at L.A. Dodgers

Horoscopes

♈ Aries
March 21 - April 20
Keep things in perspective today. Not everything will go your way and you could even suffer a small financial loss but it's no big deal.

♉ Taurus
April 21 - May 21
With the Sun about to move into your birth sign you should be looking ahead and planning all the marvelous things you are going to be doing. Don't let other people's negativity hold you back.

♊ Gemini
May 22 - June 21
You may be active by nature but over the next few days you should aim to do less and think more. Activity for its own sake, be it physical or mental, is a waste of time, so make sure your aims have meaning.

♋ Cancer
June 22 - July 23
How can you make a difference in the world? Give it some thought and a way will occur to you.

♌ Leo
July 24 - Aug. 23
Do you want to improve your status and reputation? Then keep your eyes and ears open because you will soon get the chance.

♍ Virgo
Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
The planets are about to offer you the chance to make a new beginning. First though you need to get rid of all that emotional baggage you have been carrying around. It's time to be who you want to be.

♎ Libra
Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
You may be inclined to make changes to your financial or business affairs today but is that really such a smart idea? With so many things in a state of flux at the moment it may be better to just sit tight.

♏ Scorpio
Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Your reputation for toughness is well deserved but there is also a softer, more compassionate side to your nature that will be much in evidence today.

♐ Sagittarius
Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
Do you see your work as a challenge or a chore? If it's the latter you may need to change direction

♑ Capricorn
Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
You cannot be bothered with trivial issues or trivial people. There are so many big things going on in the world at the moment and it annoys you that so many don't seem to care.

♒ Aquarius
Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
With the cosmic emphasis about to switch to the domestic sphere you should focus on the needs of loved ones.

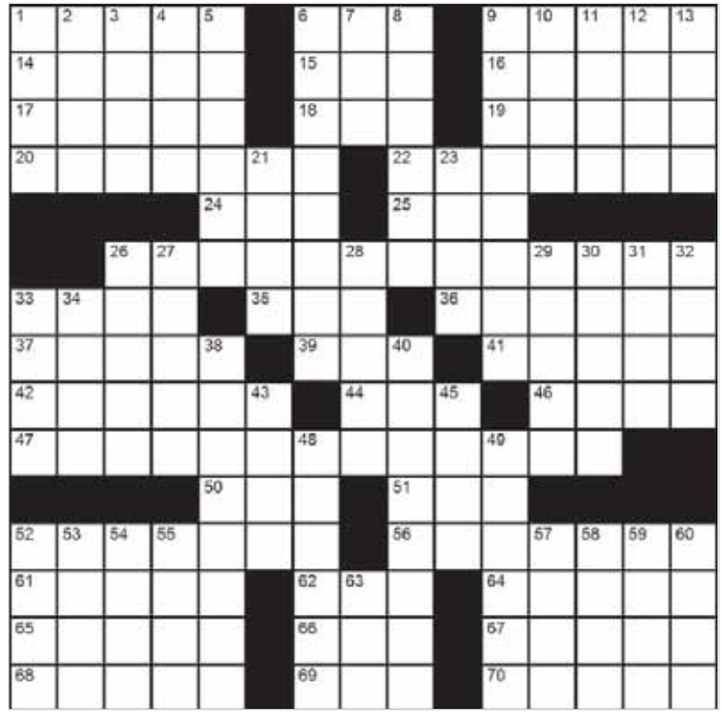
♓ Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
As Pisces is such a sensitive sign you are easily affected by other people's moods, which means you should be rather cheerful today. Everyone around you is in the mood to have fun. Sounds like an excuse for a party.

SALLY BROMPTON

Crossword: Canada Across and Down

See today's answers at metronews.ca/answers.

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



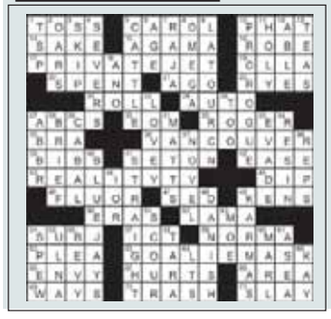
Across

1. Juno, for one
6. Haul with difficulty
9. Boast
14. "Extra" host Mr. Lopez
15. 'Comb' suffix (Put together)
16. "__ __ Majesty's Secret Service (1969)"
17. Spectrum source
18. Half a cheering prop
19. "__ fired!" (Donald Trump's catchphrase)
20. Maritime helicopter of the RCAF: 2 wds.
22. Sir Walter Scott novel about a Saxon knight
24. Naught
25. Henpeck
26. It distinguishes the iconic Lacoste tennis/golf shirt: 2 wds.
33. Moulding style
35. __-Pekka Salonen (Finnish conductor/composer)
36. Some leathers
37. Keepsake of yore
39. Grads-to-be, briefly
41. Beverly Hills' __ Drive
42. Sporting spots
44. "Of course."
46. 'Smart' suffix (Brains)
47. Justin Trudeau's gig: 2 wds.
50. Fizzle out
51. Roman Numeral for 551
52. Bring in illegally
56. Driving and piano
61. Filmmaker, Frank __
62. Tiny
64. Sal of "Rebel Without a Cause" (1955)
65. Warning device
66. '_' __ for Alberta
67. "Farewell, mon ami!"
68. Length unit
69. Salutes from Rocky
70. Tennis great, Ivan __

Down

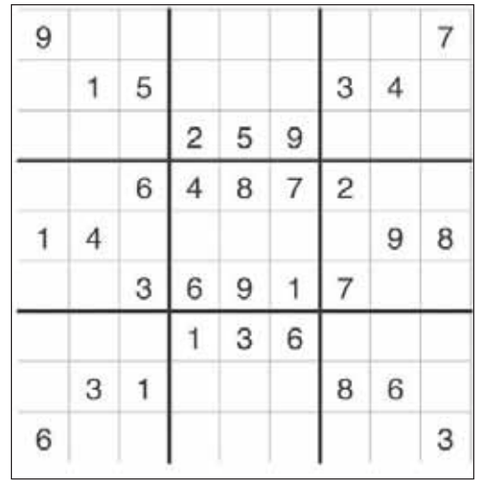
1. Hookups for Mr. Hendrix
2. Merchandise
3. Diva's showstopper
4. Take a chance
5. Dotted game tile
6. Makeup kit item: 2 wds.
7. One: Spanish
8. Horoscope sign
9. Goods transporting job in early Canada
10. Auth. unknown
11. "Nope."
12. Detective created by mystery writer Rex Stout, __ Wolfe
13. Branches-and-roots grower
21. Kind
23. Mr. Kilmer's
26. Famous person, for short
27. Marie Antoinette, par exemple
28. Actress Ms. Hannah
29. Sierra __
30. More peculiar
31. "Well, well, wells."
32. Bears: Spanish
33. Viva voce
34. Ginger Spice aka __ Halliwell
38. Poker: 2 wds.
40. Like some grapes
43. Cruise
45. Garage __
48. Allowance
49. Dreary
52. Defraud
53. Female's opposite
54. __ the crack of dawn: 2 wds.
55. Fido is furious!
57. Show allegiance
58. "Come __!" = "Welcome!": 2 wds.
59. Call for
60. Collective __ (Rock band)
63. Farm song vowels

Yesterday's Crossword



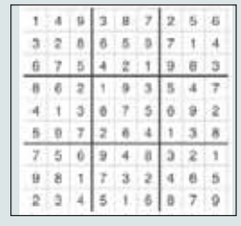
Sudoku

How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved.



9								7
	1	5				3	4	
			2	5	9			
		6	4	8	7	2		
1	4						9	8
		3	6	9	1	7		
			1	3	6			
	3	1				8	6	
6								3

Yesterday's Sudoku



Weather

TODAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
MAX: 5° MIN: -9°	MAX: 6° MIN: -3°	MAX: 11 MIN: 1°

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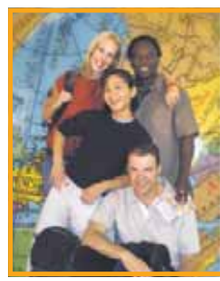

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UPGRADE <$750>

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STK# 343775

OWN IT FROM $31,950
N/C TURBO <$1,800>
CASH DISCOUNT <$3,000>
UPGRADE <$750>

$167/BW O DOWN* CASH PURCHASE PRICE $26,400

2013 SPORTAGE EX MODEL

STK# 446510

OWN IT FROM $29,245
CASH DISC <$2,500>
UPGRADE <$1,250>

$159/BW O DOWN* CASH PURCHASE PRICE $25,495

2013 RIO 5 DOOR

HAIL CREDIT AVAILABLE

STK# 768756

OWN IT FROM $15,650
CASH DISC <$500>
3 PAYMENTS <$900>
UPGRADE <$750>

$81/BW O DOWN* CASH PURCHASE PRICE $13,500

2013 SORENTO V6 AWD

HAIL DAMAGE DISCOUNT AVAIL-

STK# 360810

OWN IT FROM $33,045
CASH DISCOUNT <$4,000>
UPGRADE <$1,250>

$172/BW O DOWN* CASH PURCHASE PRICE $27,795

2014 KIA SORENTO

STK# 428589

OWN IT FROM $28,760
UPGRADE <$1,250>

$168/BW O DOWN* CASH PURCHASE PRICE $27,110

2013 SOUL 2U AUTO

STK# 589379

OWN IT FROM $22,045
CASH SAVINGS <$1,500>
UPGRADE <$750>

$123/BW O DOWN* CASH PURCHASE PRICE $19,795

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STK# #716818

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